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(Vol. XXVI.)

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF
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EPICGRAPHIA INDICA

AND

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

EDITED BY

RAJENDRA PRASAD VARTI, M.A. (Cal.), Ph.D. (Oxford)

GOVERNMENT EPIGRAPHIST FOR INDIA

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Ukshmanasana. By Dr. H. N. Randle, London

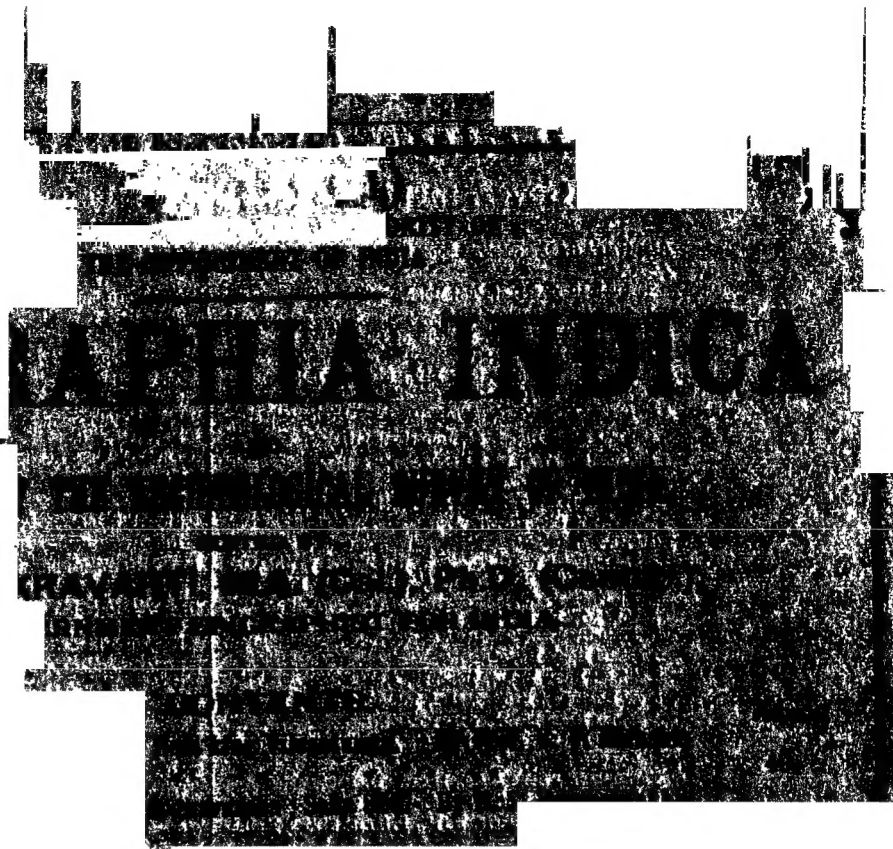
Plates of the Telugu Chola Arasavalli. By H. N. Randle,
Ph.D., University of Madras

PLATES.

of Ukshmanasana

native plates of the Telugu Chola

Plates of the Telugu Chola



87



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EPIGRAPHIA INDICA

AND
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EDITED BY
N. P. CHAKRAVARTI, M.A. (Cal.), Ph.D. (Cantab.),
GOVERNMENT EPIGRAPhist FOR INDIA.

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ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

- Page 56, line 7.—For पृथ्वा read पृथ्वी.
- „ 64, line 7.—For sattya read sattyā(ya)
- „ 65, lines 16-17.—For kōśambah read kōśāmrah(?)
- „ 72, line 3.—For Śrī-Chadra(ndra) read Śrī-Chandra.
- „ 78, line 2.—For Airavātṭa read Airāvātṭa.
- „ do. text line 1.—For Ōjjyanī read Ōjjayanī.
- „ 100, line 1.—For [Bha]=rathēśvara read [Bha]rathēśvara.
- „ 103, f. n. 7.—For संस्कृत read संस्कृत.
- „ 106, f. n. 19.—For स्वाधाय read स्वाध्याय.
- „ 114, f. n. 4.—For Rāshṭrakūṭas and their Times read Rāshṭrakūṭas and their Times
- „ 115, last line.—For 'si' after date read 'is'.
- „ 118, f. n. 4.—For vice versā read vice versa.
- „ 131, f. n. 5.—For Limakara read Himakara.
- „ 134, text lines 2-3.—For Kuttura read Kuttupu.
- „ 136, f.n. 9.—For Nandivamran read Nandivarman.
- „ 141, line 3.—For Ākasapadda read Ākāśapadda.
- „ 141, line 11.—Insert a comma after Bṛihaspatisava.
- „ 141, f. n. 2, line 15.—Insert a comma after Kadambas.
- „ 142, f. n. 2.—Supply the number 2 for this footnote.
- „ 154, f. n. 2.—Read 'in other', etc.
- „ 163, line 14 from bottom.—Insert a comma after for.
- „ 169, f. n. 9.—For f. n. 8 read f. n. 1.
- „ 171, f. n. 6.—Supply the number 6 for this footnote.
- „ 181, f. n. 4.—For Nava-āhasāṅkacharita read Navasāhasāṅkacharita.
- „ 199, line 4 from bottom.—Read ' . . . presupposes a large kingdom ', etc.
- „ 199, line 2 from bottom.—For aḍministration read administration.
- „ 200, text line 10.—For कीर्तिः read कीर्तिः.
- „ 202, f. n. 1.—For krityō° read krityō°.
- „ 204 line 30.—For Jaika II read Jaika I.
- „ 207, f. n. 2.—Read ' the real spelling, etc. .
- „ 221, f. n. 5.—Read=ālōky=āti°.
- „ 226, text line 34.—For स्मत्तव्यं read स्मर्तव्यं.
- „ 230, line 12 from bottom.—For daughter read daughter.
- „ 236, f. n. 3.—Read ' Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar . . . Purusgupta '.
- „ 237, f. n. 3.—For have read above and for '64 a ter No. 66 read p. 64.
- „ 244, last paras —For Panchayat read Pañchāyat.
- „ 245, line 3.—For Panchayat read Pañchāyat.
- „ 245, add at the end of para. 2.—[God Kēśava or Gōpinātha consecrated by a chief or a person or in his name is called after him. The god Mitra-Kēśavadēva may have been originally installed by one Mitra or in his name. See the following instances :—
 (1) Kīrti-Gōpināt a installed in the name of one Kīrti (S. I. I., Vol. IV, No. 700).
 (2) Ananta-Gōpinātha temple (No. 299 of 1915 in *A. R. on Epigraphy* for 1916)
 and (3) Tribhuvanamalla-Kēśavadēva (S. I. I., Vol VI, Nos 630, 635^f.)—C.R.K.]

Page 270, f. n. 3.—*For Rāsthtrakūta read Rāshtrakūta.*

„ 275, f. n. 4.—*Insert 'of' after 'inscription'.*

„ 283.—*The page number ought to be 283 and not 28*

„ 292, text line 60.—*For सामान्येयं read सामान्योयं.*

EPIGRAPHIA INDICA.

VOLUME XXVI.

No. 1.—INDIA OFFICE PLATE OF LAKSHMANASENA.

BY DR. H. N. RANDLE, LONDON.

This is the plate to which Nalini Kanta Bhattasali drew attention in 1927 under the title "The Lost Bhowal Copper-Plate of Lakṣmaṇa Sena Deva of Bengal,"¹ and its reappearance fully confirms the conclusions reached by Bhattasali on the evidence of a report (fortunately printed in the *Calcutta Gazette*, May 14, 1829) of a meeting of the Asiatic Society held on May 6, 1829.² From this it appears that Walters, Magistrate of Dacca, had obtained the plate from Golak Narayan Roy, zamindar of Bhāḍyāl and presented it to the Society. Although the 'translation' furnished by the Pandit of the Dacca City Court was, as H. H. Wilson, the Society's Secretary, pointed out, almost entirely a product of his own invention, it included a few proper names which are to be found in the present plate.—Jye Seen (Vijayasēna), Goree Pereaḥ (*Gaurī priyā*, line 1), Mulla Seen (Vallālasēna ?), the Sybolenee river (Śaivalinī, line 23) and Beer Seen (Virasēna, line 6). And the Pandit rightly said that the inscription commences with an "invocation of Narayunu." Wilson recognised it as an ordinary land-grant of a Sēna king, reading the date (really 27, as Bhattasali conjectured) as 37, and remarking that the imperfect condition of the plate rendered it very problematical whether it would hereafter be more satisfactorily deciphered.³ The plate was forgotten for half a century, until Navinachandra Bhadra in his *Bhāḍyālēr itihāsa* (1875) gave a brief account of the finding of it;⁴ and then again forgotten for another half century, until Bhattasali's article appeared in 1927. In 1930 I turned out from a safe in the India Office Library a number of copper-plates, and ascertained that, with three or four possible exceptions, all had been published. The present plate was one of these exceptions. Subsequent

¹ *Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol. III (1927), pp. 89-96. I published a preliminary notice of the reappearance of the plate in the same journal, Vol. XV (1939), pp. 300-302, and the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal then claimed it. It has now been restored to the possession of the Society.

² Bhattasali points out that the Asiatic Society's proceedings were not printed before 1821, and again not between 1827 and 1829. In 1829 they were printed in the monthly "*Gleanings of Science*", which, however, may not have included the May proceedings.

³ Wilson did not allow for the subsequent discovery of other similar plates which supplement the imperfections of this one.

⁴ The relevant passage is at p. 26. I am indebted to my colleague Mr. R. H. Williams, Assistant Keeper at the India Office Library, for the following translation. "At Bhāḍyāl, amongst the Chaṇḍāls was a certain Chāshā Nāgarī who was accustomed to do accounts and had even procured some books. Some time previously he had found a copper-plate with some characters on it, opposite the afore-mentioned hermitage of Maghī. At the instance of a zamīndār who formerly lived in the place, the late Mahātmā Golāk Nārāyaṇa Rāya Chaudhuri, many attempts were made to read this inscription, but no one was able to identify it. It was sent to a certain learned Englishman of Dacca; but there too no one was able to decipher it, so it was forwarded to Calcutta. Again in that city no one could read it, so at last it has been sent to England".

examination, in the light of Bhattasali's article, has convinced me that it is the **Bhowal** (Bhāḍyāl) **copper-plate**. In view of the fact that H. H. Wilson was afterwards Librarian to the East India Company, it is not difficult to suppose that it came to the East India House with him.

Walters' account of the find-spot of the plate is as follows :—" About thirty miles north of the city of Dacca, a few miles above the site of the ancient fortress of Akdala, and a short distance from the banks of the river Luck'iah, is situated Mowza Rajabary, appertaining to pergunnah Bhowal, and included in the modern division of thannah Jamalpore. At this place, on the crest of a low hill, stands an ancient building called by the natives Moggee's Mut (*Maghīr maṭha*). It is built in the usual pyramidal form of Hindoo *mut*s, but of considerable solidity, and contains a small vaulted apartment . . . Close to the *mut* is a tank of some magnitude . . . At a distance of about two miles to the north-west of the *mut* stood the palace of Raja Chandāl . . . A large tank called Dunwa Digeē, and the scattered remains of old brick buildings, evince that the spot was once the habitation of man . . . About forty years ago the accompanying copper tablet was dug up by a Koonch ryot, at a short distance from the *mut*. It was conveyed to the Bhowal zemindar, Luckhenarain Rae, from whose son, Golucknarain Rae it has now been obtained". These topographical clues should be sufficient, but they are not in fact easily intelligible to a person using modern maps and gazetteers, since Bhowal and "Mowza Rajabary" are unknown to the Gazetteers and are not to be found on modern maps, while the Jamalpur of modern maps is not 30 miles but 90 miles to the north-west (not north) of Dacca. The distance from Dacca, and proximity to the river Lakhya or Lakshya remain the only useful pointers to modern maps. The Lakhya figures on the maps¹ as the name of that stretch of river which runs roughly north and south through the Kāliganj and Rūpganj sections of the Dacca District. Older maps are helpful, and the map of the western districts of the Dacca Division contained in Volume V of Hunter's *Statistical Account of Bengal* (1875) marks in the Dacca district of the division, "Jaidebpur or Bhowal", and "Bhowal or Nagari". There is no doubt that the former locality is the relevant one as the names of zamindars mentioned in Mr. Walters' account show.² The plate must have been found in the extreme north of the Dacca District—since Walters located Mowza Rajabary 30 miles north of Dacca³—and must then have been brought to Jaydebpur (otherwise called Bhowal). The *thāna* Kapsasia appears to be indicated as the locality of the find. An account of Bhowal and "Capassia" will be found in James Taylor's *Sketch of the Topography and Statistics of Dacca* (Calcutta, 1840, pp. 110-118).

The India Office plate is a **single plate** measuring $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ inches, weighing 7 lbs., and having 59 lines incised upon it, 30 on the obverse and 29 on the reverse. The **seal**, projected from the top edge in the shape of an inverted shield or heart, carries the usual Sēna device, the image of Sadāśiva, 3 inches in diameter, fixed by a stout central bolt almost $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter which projects about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch on the reverse. There is a certain amount of corrosion, which affects especially the proper right side of the reverse, so that the first ten or twelve *aksharas* of many lines in the latter half of the inscription are more or less illegible. But (as Bhattasali had rightly conjectured)

¹ See Survey map-sheets of Bengal (1 mile to the inch—1919), 78. L. 12 and 79. I. 9.

² See *Eastern Bengal District Gazetteers*, Dacca (1912), pp. 183 f., under Jaydebpur.

³ As to Walters' "thannah Jamalpore", which included the "pergunnah Bhowal", Bengal map-sheet 79. I. 9 shows a Jamalpur and a Jamalpur Chak near and on the Lakhya river in the Kāliganj part of Dacca District. Neither appears on Hunter's map; but Jumalpoor is marked as the headquarters of a *thana* on the map in *Principal heads of the history and statistics of the Dacca Division* (Calcutta, 1868). The same map shows "Joydehpooor or Bhowal" some 12 miles west of Jumalpoor, and Kapsasia some 30 miles north of Dacca. Ekdalla is marked about 5 miles north-east of Jumalpoor.

this plate so closely resembles the Mādhānagar plate of Lakshmanasēna¹ that the *lacuna* over a large part of it can be supplied from the Mādhānagar plate. In fact Banerji's and Majumdar's reading and translation of that part of the Mādhānagar plate which is identical with lines 1-24, 27-34, 43-45 and 49-57 of the present plate render a fresh reading and translation of these passages superfluous, except in so far as the India Office plate happens to supply *lacuna* in the Mādhānagar plate. But it seemed more convenient to transcribe and translate the whole. The engraver seems to have made no mistakes in reproducing his copy, although he was not always careful in forming his characters. The usual ambiguities (*r, v, ch : ś, ṣ, g : h, ṅg ; dh, p, y ;* some conjuncts ; and vowel marks) therefore present occasional difficulty, and (in combination with the effects of corrosion) make the reading of some characters, especially in unfamiliar place-names, open to doubt.

The deed was issued by the *Mahārājādhirāja Ari-rāja-Madana-Śaṅkara Lakshmanasēna-dēva* (lines 28 and 57-8). The name of the place of issue has been doubtfully read in the Mādhānagar grant as *Dhāryyagrāma*. In the present plate it is again doubtful (line 24). The grant is dated on the 6th day of the month Kārttika in the year 27, and was executed by Śaṅkaradhara, the *Gauḍa-Mahāsāndhiragrahika* as *dūta* (lines 57-59). It is a conveyance of land to *Pāṭhaka Padmanābhādēva-śarman*, son of Mahādēva[dēva]-śarman, grandson of Jayadēva-śarman and great-grandson of Buddhadēva[?]śarman, of the Maudgalya *gōtra* and the Aurva, Chyavana, Bhārgava, Jāmadagnya and Āpnavāna *pravaras*, a follower of the Kauthuma *śākhā* of the Sāma-vēda (lines 45-7). The motive of the gift is to win merit for the *Mahādēvī . . . pādēvī* and the *Mahādēvī Kalyāṇadēvī* (line 48)². The land conveyed consists of two adjacent estates, of the annual value of 400 *kapardaka-purāṇas*, in the *Paundravardhana-bhukti*, one at least (possibly both) being in the *Vatumbī chaturaka* of the *Vāśchaśa* (?) *āyriti* of that *bhukti*. Both portions of land have as their southern boundary Jaladāṇḍi, while the village Khāvōlāpāṇḍi forms the eastern boundary of one and the western boundary of the other. That on the west is bounded on the north and west by the Suja-nadī(?). That on the east (which perhaps fell in a different *chaturaka*) is bounded on the north by Valēṅgavēnada³ (?), and on the east by Śimhaḍāvillī (?), by the southern part of Kaimajagrāvāḍī (?) and apparently by a water-exit. The lands conveyed comprised four part-estates (*khaṇḍa-kshētra*) named *Kavillī*, *Chuñchali*, *Gāṇḍoli* and *Dēhipā*. Measurements are given, but they are not intelligible. There is possibly a reference to a 22-*hasta* unit of measurement. I cannot identify on the maps any of the places named ; but the find-spot may indicate that they are to be looked for in the north of the Dacca District.

The invocation and genealogy in thirteen stanzas, identical with those of the Mādhānagar inscription, occupy the first 23 lines of the plate. The remainder is in prose, with the exception of the *dharm-ānuśāsinah ślōkāḥ* (vv. 14-19)⁴ which are given precisely as in the Mādhānagar plate up to the point to which that plate is legible. The list of officials addressed corresponds in every respect with that found in other Sēna grants. But the amplification of Lakshmanasēna's titles which occupies six lines in the Mādhānagar plate is here reduced to two lines (lines 26 and 27, probably corresponding to two of the three illegible lines in the Mādhānagar plate). Lakshmanasēna is described in both plates as *Gauḍēśvara-paramēśvara-paramanārasimha-paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja*, but the present plate omits the description of him (given in

¹ Edited by R. D. Banerji, with facsimile, in *J. P. A. S. B.*, new series, Vol. 5 (1909), pp. 467-476 ; and by N. G. Majumdar, *Inscriptions of Bengal*, Vol. III, pp. 106-115 (Varendra Research Society, Rajshahi, 1929).

² [See below p. 9 n. 3.—Ed.]

³ [See below p. 8 n. 16.—Ed.]

⁴ [and a verse introducing the *dūta* (v. 20).—Ed.]

lines 30-32 of the Mādhānagar plate) as *paramadikshita*, *parama-brahmakshatriya*, *vikalikṛita-Kaliṅga*¹ and *vikrama-vaśikṛita-Kāmarūpa*. It does not seem, however, that the omission here has any significance. The references to **Kaliṅga** and **Kāmarūpa**² made in the verse *praśasti* (lines 19 and 20) were presumably regarded as a sufficient record.

The date of the inscription, if Lakshmaṇasēna's reign was c. 1170-1200 A.D.³, must be fixed at c. 1197 A. D., and therefore very near the time of his overthrow by Muḥammad Bakhtiyār. And this dating⁴ cannot be far wrong if we accept—as I think we must—the solid evidence of four passages in Vallālasēna's *Adbhuta-sāgara*⁵ (not to mention the colophon found in late MSS. of the royal author's *Dāna-sāgara*),⁶ which give Śaka dates for the commencement of the *Adbhuta-sāgara* (1090=1168-69 A.D.), for the completion of the *Dāna-sāgara* (1091=1169-70 A.D.), and for the early part (not necessarily the first year) of Vallālasēna's⁷ reign (1082=1160-61 A.D.). There is

¹ As read by Majumdar. Banerji reads *-kalāṅka*.

² Here called Prāgjyōtisha.

³ The doubts which have arisen about Lakshmaṇasēna's date are due to difficulties in the interpretation of two eras (used later but never by the Sēnas themselves):

(a) the *Lakshmaṇa samvat*, which Kielhorn determined as commencing in 1118-19 A.D. (*Ind. Ant.*, 1890, p. 1).

(b) the *atīta-rājya Lakshmaṇasēna* era used in Aśōkachalla's inscriptions.

As to (a) there was never any real reason for Kielhorn's very natural assumption that 1118-19 A.D. was the date of Lakshmaṇasēna's accession. The question whether it is to be taken as the date of his birth or as the date of Vijayasēna's accession, or as the date of some other landmark in Sēna history, is still *sub judice*. But, whatever the solution may be, it need not prevent the supposition that Lakshmaṇasēna's reign commenced c. 1170 A.D.

As to (b), the interpretation of the *atīta-rājya* era as commencing from the overthrow of Lakshmaṇasēna is in itself the obvious interpretation, and it seems to fit in with facts and probabilities. Contrary views are mentioned in the following note.

⁴ Maintained by R. C. Majumdar, 'Chronology of the Sena Kings', in *J. P. A. S. B.*, Vol. XVII (1921), pp. 7-16, and D. C. Bhattacharyya, 'Date of Lakshmaṇasēna and his predecessors', in *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LI (1922), pp. 145-148 and 153-158. The contrary opinion is maintained by R. D. Banerji in *J. A. S. B.*, Vol. IX (1913), p. 277. He holds that the *Lakshmaṇa samvat* era (1118-19 A.D.) dates from the accession of Lakshmaṇasēna and that the Aśōkachalla inscriptions (*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XII, p. 27) dated in years 51 and 74 of the *Lakshmaṇa atīta-rājya* era refer to the same epoch, their dates being therefore equivalent to 1169-70 A.D. and 1192-3 A.D. For a later discussion of the problem see P. C. Barat in *J. R. A. S.*, 1930, pp. 1-9. Barat gives four passages from the *Adbhuta-sāgara* which take 1090 Śaka as the initial date for various calculations; and each passage mentions that this is the year in which the *Adbhuta-sāgara* was commenced. It seems quite impossible to reject this evidence. Barat's readjusted chronology is:—

Vijayasēna b. 1069 acc. 1095 died or retired 1158

Vallālasēna b. 1094 acc. 1158 died or retired 1168

Lakshmaṇasēna b. 1119 acc. 1168 died or retired 1182

The scheme is acceptable with the exception of the last date. The present plate shows that Lakshmaṇasēna ruled 27 years at least. Minhāj ibn Sirāj in the *Tabaqāt-i-Nāsiri* states that "Rai Lakhminya" had been on the throne for eighty years when he was attacked by Muḥammad Bakhtiyār at Nadiya. Minhāj's statement must mean that Lakshmaṇasēna was then 80 years old. This would date the attack in 1198-99 A.D.

⁵ D. C. Bhattacharyya, *loc. cit.*, gives the reference to the passages in Muralīdhar Jhā's edition of the *Adbhutasāgara* (Benares, 1905), pp. 4, 126, 235 and 236.

⁶ See *J. P. A. S. B.*, Vol. XI (1915), p. 347.

⁷ The length of the reign of Vijayasēna (Vallālasēna's predecessor) depends on the reading and interpretation of the date in his Barrackpur plate (*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XV, p. 282). Banerji read it as 32, Bhattacharyya as 61. Bhandarkar (*List*, No. 1683; p. 236, note 1) accepts the reading 61, but suggests that the year could be referred to the Chālukya-Vikrama era, giving 1137-8 A.D. as a date for Vijayasēna. Bhandarkar's suggestion will not fit in with the date given in the *Adbhuta-sāgara* (=1160-61 A.D.) for the early part of Vallālasēna's reign.

then no difficulty in accepting the tradition that it was in fact this Lakshmanasēna, and no other, whose overthrow by Muhammad Bakhtiyār is related in the *Tabaqāt-i-Nāsiri*,—an event variously dated from 1194 to 1207 A.D.¹

TEXT.²

Obverse.

- 1 Siddham³ [*] Ōm namō Nārāyaṇāya || Yasy=āṅkē śarad-ambud-ōrasi taḍil-lēkh=ēva Gaurī priyā dēh-ārddhēna [Harim samā]śritam=a[bhū]d=yasy=āti-
- 2 chitram vapuḥ | dīpt-ārka-dyuti-lōchana-traya-ruchā ghōraṁ dadhānō mukhaṁ dēvas=tvām sa nirasta-dānava-gajaḥ pushṇātu Pañchānanaḥ || [1*]⁴ Svar-gGa-
- 3 ṅgā-jala-puṇḍarikam=amṛita-prāvāra⁵-dhārā-grihaṁ śrīṅgāra-druma-pushpam=Iśvara-śikh-ālāṅkāra-muktā-maṇiḥ | kshīr-āmbhōnidhi-jī-
- 4 vitaṁ kumudini-vṛind-aika-vaiḥāsikō⁶ jīvaṁ=Manmatha-rājya⁷-paushtika-mahā-śānti-dviśaś=chandramāḥ || [2*]⁸ Tribhuvana-jaya-sambhri-
- 5 t-ārtha⁹-klīptaiḥ kratubhir=avārta¹⁰-sattribhō=marāṇām | ajanishata tad-anvayē dharitri-valaya-viśrīṅkhala-kīrttayō narēndrāḥ || [3*]¹¹
- 6 Paurāṇibhiḥ kathābhiḥ prathita-guṇa-gaṇē Virasēnasya vaṁśē Ka[rṇpāṭa-kshatri-]yāṇām=ajani kula-śīr-dāma
- 7 Sāmantasēnaḥ | kṛtvā nirvīram=urvī-talam=a[dhika]tarām¹² tripyatā nāka-nadyā- [m nirṇi]ktō yēna [yudhyad-ripu-rudhira]-kaṇ-ā-
- 8 kīr[ṇ]a-dhāraḥ kṛipāṇaḥ || [4*]¹³ Virāṇām=adhidaivataṁ ripu-[chamū]-mār-ā[nka-ma]lla-vratas=tasmā[d]=vismayaniya-[śaurya]-ma[h]i[mā]
- 9 Hēmantasēnō=bhavat | kshīrōd-ādha[r]a-vā[s]asō Vasumatī-dēvyā yadiyaṁ yaśō ratnasy=ēva [ṣu]mēru-mauli-mi-
- 10 lita[m] kshauma-śriyaṁ pushyati || [5*]¹⁴ Ajani Vijayasēnas=tējas[ā]m rāsir=asmāt samara-vi[śrīma]rāp[ām] bhūbhritām=ē-
- 11 ka-śēshaḥ [*] iha jagati vishēhē yēna vaṁśasya pūrvvaḥ puruṣa iti sudhāmśau kēvala[m] rāja-śav(b)daḥ || [6*]¹⁵ Bhū-chakram

¹ See Raverty's translation (*Bibliotheca Indica*, Work No. 78, published in 1881), pages 554-558. Raverty (footnote, p. 559) argues for the date 1194. From the side of Sēna chronology a date near 1198 would seem to be indicated.

² Square brackets are used to indicate what is illegible but has been supplied. Round brackets indicate a necessary emendation. A single dot enclosed within square brackets indicates an illegible element in an *akṣara*.

³ Represented by a symbol.

⁴ Metre : *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

⁵ The Mādhānagar plate has *-prādāra-*. I find no authority for either word. [Probably we have to take *prā-vri* here in the sense of 'to fill'. See Monier-Williams' *Sanskrit-English Dictionary* under *prā-vri*.—Ed.]

⁶ Mādhānagar *-vaiḥāsikō*.

⁷ Mādhānagar *-rāja-*.

⁸ Metre : *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

⁹ This is the reading also in Mādhānagar.

¹⁰ Mādhānagar *-avādhita-*. [Reading in M. also seems to be *-avārta-*.—Ed.]

¹¹ Metre : *Pushpitāgrā*.

¹² [Reading both here and in Mādhānagar is clearly *=opi na tarām tripyatā*, i.e., not being fully satisfied even after, etc.—Ed.]

¹³ Metre : *Sragdharā*.

¹⁴ Metre : *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

¹⁵ Metre : *Mālini*.

- 12 kiyad=ēṭad=āvṛitam=abhūd=yad=Vāmanasy=āṅghriṇā Nāgānām kiyad=āspadam yad¹=
urasā la[ngh]anti² gūḍhāṅghrayaḥ | ēk-āhā.³
- 13 d=yad=anūrur=añchati kiyan-mātram tad=apy=amva(mba)ra[m] yasy=ēt=iva yaśō hriyā
tribhuvana-vyāptyā=pi⁴ nō tṛipyati || [7*]⁵ Tasmād=aśē[sha-]
- 14 bhuvan-ōtsava-pārvvaṇ-ēndur⁶=vVallālasēna-jagatīpatir=ujjagāma | yaḥ kēvalam na
khalu sarvva-[narē]śvarāṇām=ēkaḥ sa-
- 15 magra-vidushām⁷=api chaḥravartti(ī)⁸ || [8*]⁹ Parāpar¹⁰.āntaḥpura-mauli-ratnam¹¹
Chālukya-bhūpāla-kul-ē[ndu-lē]khā | tasya¹² [priy=ābhū-]
- 16 d=va(ba)humāna-bhūmir=ILakshmī-Prithivyōr=api Rāmadēvi || [9*]¹³ Ētābhyām¹⁴
Vasudēva-Dēvakasu[tā]-dēh-āntarā[bhyā]m=iva [śrī]mal-La-
- 17 kshmanasēna-mūrttir=ajani kshmapāla-Nārāyaṇaḥ | chakrē¹⁵ yan-maya-janma-nissaha-
milan-nidrāndha-vach-cha[nchalāt | kṛi-]¹⁶
- 18 shtēn=ādhi-payōdhi kañchakam=iva [tyaktvā?] pramu[gdham] vapuḥ ||¹⁷ [10*]¹⁸ Dṛipyad.¹⁹
Gauḍēśvara-śrī-haṭha-haraṇa-kalā yasya kaumā-
- 19 ra-kēliḥ Kāliṅgēn=āṅganābhīḥ²⁰ pratipada dhadās=chakrirē²¹ yasya yūnaḥ | yēn=
āsau Kāśirājaḥ samara-
- 20 bhuvi jitō yasya nistrimśa²²-dhārā-bhīruḥ Prāgyōtishēndraś=charaṇa-²³ja-rajasaḥ nirm-
mamē kārmaṇāni || [11*]²⁴ Ā-kau-

¹ Mādhānagar reading doubtful, and unintelligible. Banerji reads *āsyadarpam*, Majumdar *ābhyudaryam*. The India Office plate is clear and intelligible.

² The illegible *akshara* is so read by Majumdar in the Mādhānagar plate. Banerji reads *lapsanti*.

³ So read by Banerji in the Mādhānagar plate. Majumdar reads *ēkāhō*, remarking that the sign for *ō* is not clear, but seems to be intended.

⁴ Majumdar reads °*nam vyāpy=ā*°, Banerji °*na-ryāpy=ā*°. *Vyāptyā* is clear on this plate.

⁵ Metre *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

⁶ Mādhānagar *kāraṇēndur*. *Pārvvaṇēndur* is clear on this plate.

⁷ Mādhānagar *virudhām*. India Office plate clearly *vidushām*.

⁸ Mādhānagar °*vartti*.

⁹ Metre : *Vasantatilakā*.

¹⁰ The India Office plate appears to read *parāparā*, not *dharādharā* as in the Mādhānagar plate. [Obviously the intended reading is *dharādhar-āntaḥpura*.—Ed.]

¹¹ Mādhānagar *ratna*. The India Office plate shows clearly the *anusvāra* which the metre demands.

¹² *Tasya* is clear. Majumdar's reading *tasyā* must be mistaken.

¹³ Metre : *Upajāti*.

¹⁴ Illegible in the Mādhānagar plate.

¹⁵ These two syllables, illegible in the Mādhānagar plate, are fairly clear here. But a mark attached to *ya* suggests *dyā*. If it is not accidental, *rakshēd* must be read.

¹⁶ Mādhānagar reads °*milad=vimbānuvachchaūchalāt=kṛi*°. The India Office plate clearly has °*milan=ni*°. What follows is only partly legible, and remains unintelligible. [Reading seems to be *-ānuva(ba)ndha-chchalāt*.—Ed.]

¹⁷ The India Office plate is more legible than the Mādhānagar plate, but I have failed to obtain an intelligible reading.

¹⁸ Metre : *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

¹⁹ These two *aksharas*, apparently illegible in the Mādhānagar plate, are quite clear here. Majumdar reads *āsīd*.

²⁰ So also the Mādhānagar plate. The remainder of this *pāda* is illegible in the Mādhānagar plate, except the last three *aksharas*, read as *-vē yasya pūrvvaḥ*. The India Office plate, but for one *akshara*, is legible. [See next note.—Ed.] The last word cannot be *pūrvvaḥ*.

²¹ [Reading seems to be *pratipadam=uva(pa)dās=chakrirē*. The idea is that the king of Kalinga accompanied by his wives often presented gifts to him (even) when the latter was young.—Ed.]

²² Illegible in the Mādhānagar plate.

²³ Illegible in the Mādhānagar plate.

²⁴ Metre *Sragdharā* (not *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*, as inadvertently stated by Majumdar).

[illegible]

Reverse.

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- 21 mārām samara-jayinā kurvvat=ōrvvīm=avīrām=ētēn=āmī katham=iva diśām=i[ś]itārō
vimuktāḥ¹ [a]shṭa[.]jaṅgē² va-
- 22 pushi kalayā tasya tē=shṭau pravishṭāḥ pra[dhva]stēti³ prabhavati na hi kshattriyā-
nām kṛipāṇaḥ⁴ || [12*]⁵ Yatr=ārāma-druma-dala-[ru-]
- 23 chā Śaivaliny-arddha-śṛiṅgāḥ [pra]syandy-ambhō-janapada⁶-guṇair=yēshu [r]ōmāñchitā
bhūḥ | prāṇān muñchanty=avanipatayō
- 24 nō cha naryān=anēna grāmās=tē tē sapadi dadirē kōṭisaḥ śāsanāni⁷ || [13*]⁸
Tē khalu.....grāma⁹-parisara-sa-
- 25 māvā[sit]a-¹⁰śrīma[j]-jaya-skandb]āvārā[t] paramēśvara-parama-Va[shu]java-parama-
bhaṭṭāraka-mahārā[jādhira]ja-śrī-Vallā-
- 26 lasēna-dēva-pādānudyā[ta-] vi...ra-jagad-dhanya-Ma[m]dara-pramathita-sōma¹¹-sama-
rasāgara-samās-āditya-Śrī[.] Lakshm=iva¹² Sē-
- 27 na-kula-kuśēsha(śa)va-vikāsa-vāsarakara¹³-Gaudēśvara-paramēśvara-parama - Nārasimha-
parama-bhaṭṭāraka-mahārā-
- 28 jādhirāja-śrīmal-Lakshmanasēna-dēva-pādā vijayinaḥ | samupagat-āsēsha-rāja-rājanyaka-
rājñī-rā[ṇaka-rā]-
- 29 japutra-rājāmātya-mahāpurōhita-mahādharma-mādhya-ksha-mahāsāndhivigrahika-mahāsēnā-
pati-mahāmudrādhi[kṛi]-
- 30 t-āntaraṅga - v(b)ṛihaduparika - mahākshapaṭalika - mahāpratīhāra - mahābhō[gika - mahā-]
pīlupati-mahāgaṇastha-dauḥ-

¹ These two *pādas*, illegible in the Mādhānagar plate, are fortunately clear.

² First *akshara* illegible. The omitted character in the third *akshara* looks legible but I have failed to identify it. The metre requires a conjunct consonant. [Possibly *ashṭa-prāṅgē* and used as qualifying *vapushī*.—Ed.]

³ [Reading may be *prahrībhitē*.—Ed.]

⁴ In these two *pādas* again the India Office plate supplies the *lacunæ* in the Mādhānagar plate.

⁵ Metre *Mandākrāntā*.

⁶ [I would read *Śaivaliny=ūr[d]dhva[gaṅgā] sasya-vyājñi[j*]=janapada*.—Ed.]

⁷ The India Office plate supplies with certainty the last four syllables of the first *pāda*, and (less certainly) the whole of the second *pāda*. It supplies the second half of the third *pāda* and the whole of the fourth *pāda*, illegible in the Mādhānagar plate. *Naryān* however remains unintelligible. [Reading is *naryāt=anēna*, *naryau* meaning the two objects of human desire, viz., heaven and earth.—Ed.]

⁸ Metre: *Mandākrāntā*.

⁹ Majumdar reads *nirgatē khalu Dhāryyagrāma*-, etc. It seems clear that the India Office plate follows the Mādhānagar plate in this line. But *ni* is followed by a punctuation mark, apparently read as 'rga' by Majumdar. The *akshara* following the punctuation mark can only be read, with Majumdar, as *tē*. It is the demonstrative pronoun anticipating *Lakshmanasēnadēva-pādāḥ* in line 28. The place-name may be the same as in the Mādhānagar plate. As it stands I should read *Phupphagrāma*. But corrosion produces such strange effects that what now looks like *Phu* might once have been *Dhā*. Superscript *r* easily disappears, so that the second *akshara* might be *-ryya*.

¹⁰ From this point up to the word *Gaudēśvara* in line 27 the Mādhānagar version, so far as legible, differs widely from the present inscription. These two and a half lines (25-27) of the India Office plate replace no less than seven lines (25-32) in the Mādhānagar plate (three of which are altogether illegible). The lines omitted in the India Office plate include references to Lakshmanasēna as having "crippled" Kalinga and subdued Kāmārūpa.

¹¹ [To me the reading appears to be *dhyātō niju-bhuja*.....*Mundara-pramathit-āsīma*.—Ed.]

¹² [Correct reading is *samāsādita-Gauda-Lakshmika*.—Ed.]

¹³ For the preceding phrase compare the Edilpur grant of Kēśavasēna, line 41, *Sēna-kula-kamāia-vikāsa-bhāskara*. From the word *Gaudēśvara* up to the middle of line 34 the present inscription is identical with the corresponding part (line 33-39) of the Mādhānagar plate.

Reverse.

- 31 sādhi[ka]-chaurō[ddha]raṇika-nau-va(ba)la-hasty-aśva-gō-mahish-āj- āvik - ādi - vyāpṛitaka-gaulmika-daṇḍapāśi-
- 32 ka-daṇḍanāyaka-vishayapaty-ādin¹ anyāms=cha sakala-rāja-pād-ōpajivinō=dhyaksha-prachār-ōktān=ih=ākīrti-
- 33 tān chaṭṭa-bhaṭṭa-jāṭiyān janapadān kshētrakarān vrā(brā)hmaṇān vrā(brā)hmaṇ-ōṭṭarān yath-ārham mānayaṇti vō(bō)dha-
- 34 [yanti] samādisanti cha matam=astu bhavatām yathā śrī-Paunḍravarddhana-bhukty-antahpāti-Vāśchaś-āvṛitty²-antarggata-Vaṭumvi³-chatu-
- 35 rakē pūrvvē Khāvōlāpāṇḍi⁴ sīmā | dakshiṇē Jaladāṇḍi⁵[h] sīmā | paśchimē Sujanadī⁶ sīmā | uttarē=pi tathā
- 36 [sīmā | ittha]ṇ=chatuḥ-sīm-āvachchhinnāḥ Kavilli-Chuñchali-Gāṇḍōli-Dōhipā⁷ -khaṇḍa-kshētra-samēta-Vāpa⁸-
- 37chaturakē pūrvē⁹ [Tr]aḍapāsalamvanni¹⁰-bhū-sūtra-dvayaṁ Sīmhadāvillī tathā Kaimajagrāvāḍi¹¹ paśchima-kā-
- 38 ṇḍas=tathā.....jīprastariya¹²-chatuḥ-sūtra¹³-bhūs=taj-jala-nirggama-jāśraḥ¹⁴ sīmā dakshiṇē Jaladāṇḍi⁵ sīmā
- 39 paśchimē Khāvō[lāpāṇḍi¹⁵ sī]mā | uttarē Valēṅgavēnadaḥ¹⁶ sīmā | itthaṇ=chatuḥ-sīm-āvachchhinnō mā-
- 40makēśa-dēva-dēśaḥ | ittham=ētāv=upari-likhita-bhū-sīm-āvachchhinnau []¹⁷ dvāviṃśati-hastē-

¹ The initial vowel follows. There is a tendency to separate the different categories in this list by not applying *sandhi*, and by using a punctuation mark (a dot or short upright line).

² *Vāśchaśa* is an improbable name. The second *akshara* remains doubtful. And, but for the fact that *āvṛitti* is always read in Sēna plates as the name of an administrative division of land I should have read the last three *akshara* as °śī-*vṛitty*-.
³ *Vaṭumvi*(*mvi*) seems clear.

⁴ This is clear. The same name appears to occur in line 39, in describing the western boundary of the second lot of land granted.

⁵ This is clear. The name recurs in line 38, in describing the southern boundary of the second lot of land granted.

⁶ Reading doubtful. The character read *d* could be *h* or *ḍ*.

⁷ I take these to be the names of four separate *khaṇḍa-kshētras*, and I find confirmation for this assumption in the phrase *khaṇḍa-kshētra-chatuḥṭaya* in line 42. The names are quite legible. [There appears to be a *daṇḍa* after each name.—Ed.]

⁸ Perhaps *Rīpa*°.

⁹ There is no trace of the doubling of *v*.

¹⁰ This appears to give the name of a field. I am indebted to the Editor for the reading *bhū-sūtra-dvayaṁ Sīmhadāvillī*.

¹¹ [To me the reading appears to be *Chēmadagrāvāḍi*.—Ed.]

¹² This seems to conceal a place-name.

¹³ The partly obliterated mark below the character *s* is probably *ū*. But the meaning of *sūtra* remains obscure in such a compound.

¹⁴ *jāśraḥ* conveys no meaning to me, but I cannot read it in any other way. [To me the reading appears to be *jāśraḥ* for Skt. *yāśraḥ*.—Ed.]

¹⁵ What remains legible suggests this reading. The same village has been mentioned above, line 35.

¹⁶ [Reading seems to be *Vānahāra-nadaḥ* which may be identical with the river *Bānār*, N. N. E. of Jaydevpur.—Ed.]

¹⁷ The mark which I have taken as a punctuation sign is an unusual angular mark.

- 41 [na parimitaḥ]¹.....va-bhū-samēta-kākinō dvāvimsati-yashty-
adhika-pādik-ōpēta-drōṇik-ānvita-
- 42daśa.....kau samvatsarēṇa kapardaka-purāṇa-śata-
chatusṭṭay-ōtpattikau khaṇḍa-kshētra-chatusṭṭaya-sa-
- 43 [mē]ta-.....kiyad=ēka-
bhū-bhāgau sa-jhāṭa-viṭapau sa-jala-sṭhalau sa-gar[tt-ōsha-
- 44 rau sa-guvāka-nārikēlau sahya-daś-āpa[rādhau parihṛita-sarvva-piḍāv=a-chaṭṭa-bhaṭṭa-
pravēśāv=a-kiñchi[t-pra-]
- 45 [grāhyau triṇa-yūti-gō]chara[-paryantau Buddha]dēvaśarmmaṇaḥ prapautrāya Jaya-
dēvaśarmmaṇaḥ putrāya Mahādēva-
- 46 [dēva]śarmmaṇaḥ putrāya Maudgalya-sa-gōtrāya Aurvva-Chyavana-Bhārggava-Jāma-
dagny-Āpnavāna-pravarāya² Sāma-vēda-Kauthuma-
- 47 śā[khā]-charaṇ-ā[nudhyāyi]nē **Pāṭhaka-śrī-Padmanābhādēva**śarmmaṇē pu[ṇyē=ha]ni
vidhivad=udaka-pūrvvakam bhagava-
- 48 [ntam śrīman-Nā]rāyaṇa-bha[ttāra]kam=uddiśya mahādēvī-.....**pādēvī**³mahādēvī-
Kalyāṇadēvy[ōḥ]⁴ [puṇya-prā]pti-ni-
- 49 [mittam].....samastēna
śata-chatusṭṭay-ōtpattikām bhūmim=utsrjy=ā-chandr-ārka-kshiti-sama-kālam yāva-
- 50 [d=bhūmi-chchhidra-]jnyāyēna tāmra-śāsanikrī[tya pra]dattāv=asmābhiḥ | tad=bhavadbhiḥ
sarvvair=ēv=ānumantavyam | bhāvi-
- 51 [bhīr=api nṛipa]tibhīr=apabarṇē naraka-pāta-bhayāt pālanē dharmma-gauravāt śāsanam=
idam pālanīyam [|] bhava-
- 52 nti ch=ātra dharmm-ā[nuśāsinah] ślōkāḥ | Bhūmim yāḥ pratigṛhṇāti yaś=cha bhūmim
prayachchhati | u[bhau tau] puṇya-ka[rmmā]ṇau ni-
- 53 yataṁ svarga-gāminau || [14*] Va(Ba)hubhīr=vvasudhā dattā rājabhiḥ Sagar-ādibhiḥ |
yasya yasya ya[dā bhūmis=] ta[sya tasya] tadā

¹ If -na is present it is a subsequent addition above the line; *parimitaḥ* is vaguely outlined on the damaged surface, I think. But the reading is conjectural.

² I owe the reading of the fifth *pravara*-name to the Editor. Dr. N. K. Bhattasali had suggested that either *Vātsya* or *Sāvarṇa* is required as the *gōtra*, in view of the first four *pravaras*. At that time the name of the fifth *pravara* had not been read.

³ In this name the first *akshara* is so ambiguous that I do not venture to read it. It must give the name of one of the two queens. The first *akshara* resembles *Śrī*; but this gives no intelligible name. It is possible that an initial vowel has combined by *sandhi* with the last vowel in *mahādēvī*. [The correct reading is *Śrī(Śrī)yādēvī*, a name not unfamiliar in inscriptions. A Telugu inscription in the Bhīmēśvara temple at Drākshārāma, dated Śaka 1050, mentions Śrīyādēvī, the *mahādēvī* of Anantavarman(-Chōḍagaṅga), (*S. I. I.*, Vol. IV, No. 1195). Another Telugu record in the temple of Kēśavasvāmin, on a hill near Konidena, dated Śaka 1075 gives Śrīyā-mahādēvī as the name of the mother of the Telugu Chōḍa chief, *Mahāmaṇḍalēśvara* Tribhuvanamallādēva-Chōḍa-Mahārāja (*S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 634).—Ed.]

⁴ I have no doubt that two queens are meant. The termination, as the plate now stands, looks like the singular (*Kalyāṇadēvyāḥ*); but there is room for the additional stroke which would turn this into *-dēvyōḥ*. Unfortunately, the names found in other plates for Lakshmaṇasēna's consorts are diversely read. In the Sāhitya Parishad plate of Viśvarūpasēna (line 25) Banerji reads Tattanadēvī, Majumdar *Tyashanadēvī*. In the Edilpur plate of Kēśavasēna (line 23) Majumdar read the name of Lakshmaṇasēna's other consort as *Chāndrādēvī*, but in the Madanapādā plate of Viśvarūpasēna (line 21) he reads it as *Tādādēvī*, while Vasu reads *Tāndrādēvī*. [I would read the name of the queen in l. 25 of the Sāhitya Parishad plate as *śrīmaty=Alhanadēvī*. The name of the queen in l. 21 of the Madanapādā plate is certainly Tādādēvī as read by Majumdar. If the name read as Chāndrādēvī in the Edilpur plate of Kēśavasēna l. 23, is identical with Tādādēvī, which appears possible, the Sēna records so far known have furnished the names of at least four queens of Lakshmaṇasēna, viz., Śrīyādēvī, Kalyāṇadēvī, Alhanadēvī and Tādādēvī. See the following note.—Ed.]

- 54 phalam(lam) || [15*] [Āsphō]ṭayanti pitarō valgayanti pitāmahāḥ | bhūmidō=smat-
kulē jātaḥ sa nas=trā[tā bha]vishyati || [16*] Sha-
55 [shṛīm] varsha-sa[hasrāṇi sva]rggē tishṭhati bhūmidah | ākshēptā ch=ānumantā cha
[tā]ny=ēva narak[ē vasēt] || [17*] Svadattām paradattām vā [yō]
56 [ha]rēta vasundharām(rām) | [sa] viśṭhāyām krimir=bhūtvā pitṛibhiḥ saha pachyatē |
[18*] Iti kamala-dal-āmvu(bu)-vi(bi)ndu-lōlām śriyam=anuchintya
57 [manushya-jī]vitañ=cha | [saka]lam=idam=udāhṛitañ=cha vu(bu)ddhvā na hi puruṣaḥ
para-kīrtayō vilōpyāḥ || [19*] **Ari-rāja-Mada-**
58 **na-Śaṅkara**-narapatir=akarōn=mantri-sata-mukhyam(khyam) [|*] **Śaṅkaradharam**=iha
dūtām Gauḍa-mahāsāndhivigrahikam(kam) [| 20*]¹
59 Śrī ni | mahā[-sū]m ni | śrīma[d-rā]ja ni(?) | śrī-**Madana-Śaṅkara** ui. | śrīmat sāṅga-
samaya-ni.² | **saṁ. 27 kā. dinē 6.**

TRANSLATION.

Success. Ōm. Adoration to Nārāyaṇa.

(V. 1) May the god Pañchānana give you prosperity, in whose embrace his beloved Gaurī is like the lightning flash on the bosom of an autumn cloud, whose resplendent form rests with half his body in Hari : who makes his countenance terrible with three eyes shining like the burning sun ; who as a lion (*pañchānana*) has vanquished the elephants who are the *dānavas*.³

(V. 2) Victory to the Moon, the lotus in the stream of the heavenly Ganges, the fountain of ambrosia-showers, the flower on the tree of love, the pearl adorning the head of the Lord :—(*the Moon*) whose being is from the milky sea and who alone can make the lotus-clusters smile, the priest in the great rite which augments the kingdom of Love.

(V. 3) In his (*i.e.*, the Moon's) line were born princes who offered *sattras* to the Immortals incessantly, the sacrifices being performed with the wealth gathered during their conquest of the three worlds ; princes whose fame was not confined within the girdle of the globe.

(V. 4) In **Vīrasēna's** family, the tale of whose virtues is told in Paurāṇic histories, **Sāmantasēna** was born, a garland on the brow of the race of **Karṇāṭa kshatriyas** :—who, being fully satisfied after⁴ leaving the face of the earth without a warrior, cleansed in the heavenly stream his sword, its edge dripping with the blood of opposing foemen.

(V. 5) From him was **Hēmantasēna**, the presiding deity of warriors, whose sworn purpose was the destruction⁵ of the armies of his enemies, whose majesty and might were objects of wonder : whose fame, like a jewel in the crown of the Sumēru mountain, bears the beauty of the silken (*upper*) garment of the goddess of Earth, the lower being the milky ocean.

¹ [Metre : *Āryā* ; the second *pāda* is short by one syllabic instant.—Ed.]

² The reading and interpretation of *sāṅga-samaya-ni* are doubtful. See the footnote to this line in the translation.

³ I am indebted to the Editor for the reading of the *aksharas* °s=tvām sa, and for the now intelligible translation of this clause.

⁴ [See above, p. 5 n. 12.—Ed.]

⁵ *Mārāṅkamalla* is, as Majumdar points out, parallel to *Mārāṅkavīra* in the Dēōpāra inscription (line 10, there also applied to Hēmantasēna), and occurs in a verse ascribed in the *Soduktikarnāmṛita* to Umāpatidhara, the poet who composed the Dēōpāra inscription (*J. P. A. S. B.*, 1906, p. 161, verse 5, referred to by Majumdar, p. 193). Since verses 4 and 6 of the Mādhānagar (and India Office) plate are parallel to verses 5 and 16 of the Dēōpāra inscription it has been suggested that Umāpatidhara is the author also of this *praśasti*. See *J. P. A. S. B.*, Vol. V (1909), p. 469 (referred to by Majumdar, p. 107).

(V. 6) From him was born **Vijayasēna**, a mass of splendour, the only remainder of princes moving about in battles, by whom the name "King" was suffered in this world only in the case of the Moon, as being the progenitor ancestor of his house.

(V. 7) His fame is not satisfied with even the pervasion of the three worlds, (*thinking*) as it were with shame: "How extensive could the circuit of the earth be which was covered by the foot of the Dwarf! How large the abode of the Nāgas (*i.e.*, the nether world) which the serpents traverse on their bellies! How spacious the sky which the thighless one (*i.e.*, Aruṇa) crosses in a single day!"

(V. 8) From him issued **Vallālasēna**, lord of the earth, full moon of the whole world's rejoicing, who was sole suzerain not indeed of all princes alone but also of all learned men.

(V. 9) **Rāmadēvī**, the crest-jewel of far and near *harems*,¹ the crescent moon of the family of the **Chālukya** princes, who was an object of deep veneration even for Lakshmi and Prithivī, was his consort.²

(V. 10) From these two, who were as Vasudēva and Dēvakī themselves re-incarnated, was born Nārāyaṇa himself in the form of the illustrious King **Lakshmaṇasēna**,.....³

(V. 11) Whose sport in youth was the art of taking away by violence the fortune of the proud King of **Gauḍa**; whose...when a young man were made by the prince of **Kaliṅga** by means of women:⁴ by whom that king of **Kāśī** was defeated on the field of battle; fearing the edge of whose sword the lord of **Prāgjyōtisha** performed magic rites with the dust from his feet.⁵

(V. 12) How has he, who has from his very boyhood been victorious in battles rendering the earth empty of warriors, spared the guardians of the regions? (*Because*) these eight have entered his body consisting of eight principal parts, each according to his share (*kalā*)⁶ and the sword of *kshatriyas* does not act when (*an enemy has*) already fallen (or has sought refuge).⁷

(V. 13) Where, with the beauty of the foliage of the garden trees, [are] the half-curves of the **Saivalinī**, in which the earth is thrilled with the beauties of the denizens of the moving water. Princes lose their lives, but not thereby (*the merit of their gifts*).⁸ These villages [and] royal charters in tens of millions at one time have been given.⁹

¹ [See above, p. 6 n. 10.—Ed.]

² [The idea apparently is that the king had several consorts among whom were counted also Lakshmi (*i.e.*, sovereignty) and Prithivī (*i.e.*, earth, territory). The last two were held in high esteem, but Rāmadēvī was respected even by them. With this description of Vallālasēna we may compare that of Dilīpa in Kālidāsa's *Raghuvamśa*, I, 32: "*Kalatravāntam=ātmānam=avarōdhē mahaty=api | tayā mēnē munusvinyā Lakshmyā cha vasudhādhipaḥ ||*", to which Mallinātha's comments are: "*tayā Sudakshinayā, Lakshmyā cha.....Vasudhādhipa ity=anēna Vasudhayā ch=ēti gamyatē.*"—Ed.]

³ The reading of the rest of verse 10 is too uncertain to admit of translation.

⁴ The reference to Kāliṅga remains unintelligible, in the absence of a complete reading. I conjecture the meaning to be that tribute on *pratīpad* days in the shape of a gift of women was paid by the ruler of Kāliṅga to Lakshmaṇasēna, when the latter was a young man. [There is no evidence of Lakshmaṇasēna's sporting with or receiving gifts of Kāliṅga ladies. See above, p. 6 n. 21.—Ed.]

⁵ The reference is obscure. [Kāmarūpa is traditionally famous for sorcery.—Ed.]

⁶ [Cf. *ashtānām dik-pālānām mātṛābhīr=nirmmitō nripaḥ*. Also *Manusmṛiti*, VII, 4-7.—Ed.]

⁷ The translation follows the Editor's reading. See above p. 7, nn. 2, 3.—Ed.

⁸ *Naryān* is clear, but not intelligible. [Read *naryān*. See above p. 7, n. 7.—Ed.]

⁹ The construction is at least awkward, and leads me to suspect that I have misread something. [According to my reading the translation would be: where the river is like the heavenly Ganges (*i.e.*, **Mandākini**) on account of the beauty of the gardens and foliage (*found along its banks*); where the earth, on account of the merits of the country (*janapada*), is so thrilled that her hair stands on end in the guise of the (*standing*) crops;] (*where*) the rulers would fain give up their lives but not the two supreme objects of desire—heaven and earth—and therefore divers villages were given (*by them*) in great numbers by means of grants.—Ed.]

(Ll. 24-28) His Majesty, from his illustrious camp of victory pitched in the environs of.¹ —*grāma*, meditating on the feet of the mighty prince, the devout worshipper of Viṣṇu, His most excellent Majesty the King of Kings **Vallālasēna-dēva** :—His most excellent Majesty the King of Kings the victorious **Lakshmanasēna-dēva**, the Moon churned up by Mount Mandara out of the wealth of the . . . world, the Āditya of battles, the Śrī of the ocean (*of knowledge*),² the Lakshmī of word-composition, the sun that opens the lotus of the Sēna family, the lord of Gauḍa, the mighty prince, the devout worshipper of Narasimha :—

(Ll. 28-32) to the assembled³ chiefs, chieftains, and queens, the *Rāṇakas*, the nobles, the royal councillors, the Chief Priest, the Minister for Justice, the Minister for Peace and War, the Commander-in-Chief, the Keeper of the Seal, the *Antaraṅga*, the *Brihaduparika*, the Superintendent of Accounts, the Chamberlain, the *Mahābhōgika*, the *Mahāpīlupati*, the *Mahāgaṇasṭha*, the *Daussādhikas*, the Superintendents of Police, those in charge of ships, troops, elephants, horses, cows, buffaloes, goats, sheep and the like, overseers of forests, *Daṇḍapāśikas*, *Daṇḍanāyakas*, officers in charge of districts (*viśayapati*), etc., and all other servants of His Majesty named in the list of officials⁴ and not here mentioned—

(L. 33) to persons belonging to the Chātṭa and Bhaṭṭa class, to the people in general, cultivators, Brāhmanas, and the chief Brāhmanas⁵—

(Ll. 34-37) (*His Majesty as aforesaid*) sends greeting as is fit and notification and command:—Be it noted by you that (*two parcels of land, as follows*) :—(1) in the *chaturaka* **Vaṭumbī** which forms part of the *āṇṛitti* **Vāśchaśa** (?) situated in the *bhukti* **Paunḍravarddhana**, land bounded on the east by **Khāvōlāpāṇḍi**, on the south by **Jaladāṇḍi**, on the west and likewise the north by **Sujanadi**(?)—[the land] thus defined by four boundaries, together with the part-lands **Kavilli**, **Chuñchali**, **Gāṇḍōli** and **Dōhipā** ;

¹ See above, p. 7, n. 9.

² *Sāgara* may have a double reference to (1) the sea, from which Śrī emerged at the churning of the ocean, (2) the four *sāgaras* or encyclopaedias composed by Vallālasēna (*Adbhuta*°, *Dāna*°, *Pratishṭhā*° and *Āchāra-sāgara*), —although Lakshmanasēna was part-author of the first only. [According to my reading this portion should be translated as : who has obtained the sovereignty of Gauḍa by churning the boundless ocean of battles with the Mandara (*mountain*) in the shape of his own arm. . . . See p. 7, notes 11, 12.—Ed.]

³ It is not to be supposed that any of the officials and others to whom the rescript is addressed were in fact assembled. The list appears to cover four categories—

(a) the court or personal entourage of the King,
(b) the great Ministers of State, usually marked by the prefix *Mahā*-,
(c) officials not of the highest rank, probably intended to be specified in the plural (from *daussādhika* to *viśayapati*),
(d) petty officials and the general public.

⁴ *Adhyakṣa-prachāra* is the title of the chapter on officials in the *Kauṭīliya Artha-sāstra*. There was no doubt a Sēna Civil List defining the various officers and their duties.

⁵ Majumdar (*op. cit.* pp. 182-188) has an appendix on terms denoting official titles in Sēna inscriptions. He relies in the main on J. P. Vogel's *Antiquities of Chamba State : Part I, Inscriptions of the pre-Muhammadan period* (*Arch. Survey, New Imperial Series*, Vol. XXXVI, 1911); referring also to the *Mahāvīryūtpatti* (Csoma de Körös' ed. and transl., *A. S. B. Memoirs*, Vol. IV. No. 1, 1910, pp. 29-35) and other sources. The following among his references may be mentioned in particular. . . *Antaraṅga*, court-physician (*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XII, p. 43); *Uparikā* (*Brihaduparika*), viceroy (Vogel p. 123; *Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XV, p. 113 ff., the Damodarpur plates); *Gaulmika* (Vogel p. 127; *Ep. Ind.*, Vol. IV, p. 253; *Gupta Inscr.*, p. 52; *Mahāvīryūtpatti*, p. 33); *Chātṭa*, head of a *parganā* (Vogel pp. 130-132; *Ep. Ind.*, Vol. IX, 296, 299; *ibid.*, XI, 19, 296, 299); *Chaurōddharaṇika* (Vogel p. 129); *Daṇḍapāśika* 'one who holds the rod and rope' (Vogel, p. 129); *Bhaṭṭa* (Vogel p. 132; *Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XI, p. 18; and reference to *Mahāvīryūtpatti*, p. 31); *Mahākṣhapāṭalika* (Vogel p. 133); *Mahāpīlupati* (*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XII, 43; *Mahāvīryūtpatti*, p. 30); *Mahāpratihāra* (Vogel p. 135; *Gupta Inscr.*, p. 190); *Mahābhōgika* or *Mahābhōgapati* (Vogel p. 130; *Ep. Ind.*, Vol. IV, p. 253, note 6).

(Ll. 37-40) (2) in the *chaturaka*....., land bounded on the *east* by two *sūtras* of land and **Sirṇhaḍāvillī** situate in....., also by the southern portion of **Kaimajagrā-vāḍī**,¹ also by the water-exit situate in.....:

on the *south* by **Jaladāṇḍi**; on the *west* by **Khāvōlāpāṇḍi**; on the *north* by **Valēṅgavēnada**,² the land thus defined by four boundaries [and being] the demesne of.....**makēśa-dēva**,

(Ll. 40-43) (*these two parcels of land*) thus measured and defined each by its own boundaries above mentioned,.....comprising a *drōṇika* and one quarter *plus 22 yasṭis*.....by the 22 cubit (*measure*).....producing 400 *kapardaka-purāṇas* annually, with the four part-fields.....being two parts of one estate, with undergrowth and saplings, water and dry ground, broken ground and barren ground, betel and cocoanut trees; saving the ten sins [³], exempt from all annoyances, without right of entry by Chāṭṭas and Bhāṭṭas, free from all dues, with grass, *yūti*, pasturage and boundaries:—

To the *Pāṭhaka* **Padmanābhādēva-śarman**, follower of a school of the **Kauthuma** branch of the *Sāma-vēda*, of the *Maudgalya gōtra* and the *Aurva Chyavana Bhārgava Jāmadagnya* and *Āpnavāna pravaras*, son of *Mahādēvadēva-śarman*, grandson of *Jayadēva-śarman* and great-grandson of *Buddhadēva(?)*-*śarman*:—

(Ll. 48-50) on a holy day, in due form, with the water-rite, in the name of the holy one, the glorious lord *Nārāyaṇa*, to win merit for the *Mahādēvi*... **pādēvi** and the *Mahādēvi Kalyāṇa-dēvi³:—*

We renounce for so long as the Moon and Sun and Earth endure.....this land producing in all 400 (*kapardaka-purāṇas*.) and by the *bhūmichchhidra* rule, having turned this into a title-deed on copper We hereby give it.

(Ll. 50-51) This is to be observed by you all without exception. By princes to come also this charter is to be maintained, from the fear of being cast into Hell if they should take away (*the land granted*) and from the high esteem of virtuous conduct if they maintain it. And in this connection there are verses enjoining (*such*) virtuous conduct: [Here follow six of the customary verses.]

(Ll. 57-58) The King, **Ari-rāja-Madana-Śaṅkara**⁴, has made the *Gauḍa-mahāsāndhivigrahika* **Śaṅkaradhara**, chief of a hundred councillors, his agent.

(L. 59) His Majesty's⁵ secretary.⁶ The *Mahāsāndhivigrahika*'s⁷ secretary. The secretary for the royal documents⁸ of His Majesty the King the illustrious **Madana-Śaṅkara**⁹, In the year 27 on day 6 of **Kārttika**.

¹ [*Chēmadagrāvaṣi*? See above p. 8 n. 11.—Ed.]

² [See above, p. 8 n. 16.—Ed.]

³ [See above, p. 9 n. 3 and n. 4.—Ed.]

⁴ *Ari-rāja-Madana-Śaṅkara* was the special title assumed by Lakshmanasēna. See, for example, the Edilpur copper-plate of Kēśavasēna, line 43.

⁵ *Śrī* I take to be a symbol for royalty (the King) here.

⁶ The abbreviation *nī* appears to correspond to the final syllable in *karaṇani* found in the last line of other Sēna plates, and to have some such meaning as is conveyed in the translation 'secretary'. [This abbreviation probably stands for *nibaddham*.—Ed.]

⁷ Abbreviated here, *Mahāsām*.

⁸ *Sāṅga-samaya nī* is obscure. I take it to mean "secretary for completed contracts", registration officer. (I was inclined to read *sāṅga-sa[m]*.) *saptavi*, taking *saptavi* as a contraction for *saptavimśē*, and understanding *sāṅga-samvatsarē* to mean "in the completed year". But this is hardly justified.) [To me the reading appears to be *Sāhasamaya nī*.—Ed.]

⁹ The reading *śrīmad-rāja nī* is doubtful; and *nī* following *Madana-Śaṅkara* is again doubtful. The royal secretary cannot be thrice mentioned (*Śrī nī*: *śrīmad-rāja nī* | *Śrī-Madana-Śaṅkara nī*). The translation given does not correspond with these doubtful readings, but may possibly convey the intended meaning.

No. 2.—RAJAHMUNDY MUSEUM PLATES OF THE TELUGU CHODA ANNADEVA.

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These plates were originally discovered at **Annavaṛam** near Tuni in the East Godavari District; and they are at present deposited in the Municipal Museum at Rajahmundry¹. The following description of the condition of the plates is given in the *Annual Report on Epigraphy, Southern Circle, Madras, for 1911-12* :

“There are at present only four plates, the first of which is written on the inner side while the rest are written on both sides. The plates are not held together by a ring, and it is perhaps for this reason that we find some of them missing from the set. They roughly measure 11½” by 5½” and bear a circular hole on the left margin which was evidently meant to receive the ring. From the numbering of the plates found on their inner faces, not far from the ring hole, it is gathered that the missing plates must be the 2nd, 5th, 6th and one or more after the 7th.”²

The plates are engraved in the **Telugu** characters of the early 15th century, resembling the alphabet of the other inscriptions particularly of the Redḍi kings of the period, and call for no special remarks. As the letters are deeply cut the inscription offers no difficulty in decipherment.

Orthography : The cerebral *ḷa* is frequently used in the place of the dental *la*, e.g. *nikhḷa* (I, l. 1), *akhḷa* (l. 3), *kamḷa* (l. 3); *khēḷanti* (IV, l. 38), *taḷēshu* (l. 37), etc. *Ṣa* is occasionally substituted for *sa* as in *Ṣiṅga* (III, l. 10), *Ṣiṅgaya* (VII, l. 8), etc. The *anusvāra* is invariably employed for the nasal; occasionally the letter following the *anusvāra* is needlessly doubled as in *prasamnnā* in I, l. 5; the consonant following the *rēpha* is doubled in certain places, e.g., *upasargga* (IV, l. 38), *jāgartti*, (III, l. 26), *mūrtti* (III, l. 23), etc. The text abounds in scribal errors which have been duly taken notice of and the necessary corrections have been indicated either in the body of the text or in the foot-notes accompanying it.

The **language** of the inscription is Sanskrit, and the text so far available, which is entirely in verse, consists of 68 complete verses and parts of two others. Of these, 47, including the two fragments, are in the *Vasantatilakā*, 17 in the *Āryā*, 4 in the *Upajāti*, 1 in the *Drutavilambita*, and 1 in the *Śārdūlavikrīḍita* metres.

The four plates bear the numbers 1, 3, 4 and 7. On the assumption that they all belong to one set of plates conveying a single gift, it has been gathered that the missing plates of the collection are the 2nd, 5th and 6th and also, one or more after the 7th, since the subject-matter in this last-mentioned plate is not complete³. But there are some difficulties militating against such an assumption. The verses on plates marked 1 and 7 are numbered while those on the plates marked 3 and 4 are not likewise numbered. Further, we have no clue in the plate marked 1 or in the other marked 7 to connect them, so far as their subject-matter is concerned, with the rest, i.e., those numbered 3 and 4, which are however continuous and interconnected. From this we get the first

¹ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. I, p. 172. [The plates are now reported to be missing.—Ed.]

² Part ii, pp. 79-80. Mr. V. Apparao, who contributed an article on these plates (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. I, pp. 172 ff.), observes that ‘the rims of these plates are slightly raised’. Moreover, he gives the measurements of the plates differently. They measure, according to him, 11½” by 5”. The inclusion by him of the 7th plate among the missing is probably due to his failure to notice that the last of the set bears the number 7.

³ See below p. 48 n. 5.—Ed.]

impression that these four plates do not belong to one single set but are odd plates of different grants which have been accidentally found together. They may belong to more than one set, probably three, if we take the view that the plate marked 1 belongs to one set, those marked 3 and 4 to another and the one with No. 7 to a third¹.

However, this may not be the case and it is likely that they are all of one single set. Two factors are common to the plates. They are written in the same characters and style and contain the same variety of metres employed for the verses contained in them. The failure of the engraver to number the verses on the plates III and IV has probably to be attributed to his negligence, a tendency which has manifested itself even on the first plate. In the first plate, the first seven verses are correctly numbered: but the eighth verse bears the number 21, and the ninth has no number at all. This clearly indicates that the engraver has already abandoned the practice of numbering the verses. That may account for the absence of numerical figures to indicate the number of verses on plates III and IV. The seventh plate does not, however, admit of this explanation. As stated above, the verses on this plate are numbered: it opens with the 29th and closes with the 52nd verse. Why does the engraver revert again to the practice of numbering the verses, having abandoned it once before? A more important point which has to be taken notice of in this connection is the incompatibility of the figures attached to the verses with the number of the plate. It may be stated here that all the plates in this collection, contain 14 lines of writing except the last which has 15 lines on each of its two faces. Now, the first plate which is inscribed on only one side contains 9 verses. Taking roughly this to be the number of verses on each face of the remaining five plates, *viz.*, II, III, IV, V and VI, they should have contained 90 verses on the whole. This, together with the 9 verses on the first plate, would come to 99 verses; and the seventh should have begun with the 100th verse and not the 29th. We have to assume that either the engraver for some unknown reason reverted to the plan of numbering the verses commencing again a fresh series somewhere about the middle of the inscription; or the plate under consideration belongs to a different set altogether. Neither of these alternatives is entirely free from difficulties. On the one hand, it is hard to believe that an engraver who had deliberately abandoned the scheme of enumeration had developed a fresh interest in it: and on the other the incompatibility of the number of the plate (*viz.*, 7) with the numbers of the verses therein (*viz.*, 29 to 52), still remains unexplained, even though we take the plate as belonging to another set for the sake of argument.

In conclusion we may leave the matter open for decision later on when the missing plates happen to be discovered, and, for the present, treat all the plates as belonging to one set since this does not lead to any complications.

Contents: The nine verses in the first plate are devoted to the invocation of several gods of the Hindu pantheon. The first three verses contain the praises of Sarasvatī; verse 4 is devoted to the Boar incarnation of Viṣṇu, verse 5 to Gaṇēśa, verse 6 to the Sun and the Moon, verse 7 to Durgā Mahishāsuramardini, verse 8 to Kṣhētrapāla, and verse 9 to Śiva. The 36 unnumbered verses in plates III and IV describe the **genealogy** of the donor and the achievements of himself and his ancestors.

There was a king (his name is lost) who married **Annemāmbā**; and to them was born a king called **Ēruva Bhīma**. He married **Prōlāmbikā**; and their son was **Dāma** who married

¹ In support of this view, it may be stated that the first plate which measures 11·75" by 4·8" differs in its dimensions from the rest, each of which measures 11·9" by 5·3". These measurements are obtained from the impressions in my possession as the original which is unfortunately lost is no longer available.

Lakshmī. They begot **Sōma**, the husband of **Sūrāmbikā**, and from them was born **Gaṁgādhara**, the husband of **Irugāmbikā**, who bore the title of *Arigamḍaragamḍa* (a hero to hostile heroes). Gaṁgādhara and Irugāmbikā had a son, **Kāmarāja**, who, on account of his great devotion (*bhakti*) to Śiva came to be popularly known as **Bhaktirāja**. Even in his youth Bhaktirāja won a victory over the heroes, **Boggara** and other Yavana (Muhammadan) chiefs, in the neighbourhood of the town of **Gulapūṁḍi**; in the eastern direction, after winning a victory over the **Gajapati** in battle at **Pañchadhāra**, he installed the **Koppula** chief on his throne. He also subdued king **Siṁga** near the town of **Bharanipāḍu** in a battle; vanquished with considerable prowess **Daburu-Khānu** and others with their *rākshasa* forces near **Pedakomḍapuri**; and, defeated, as if in mere sport, king **Annavōta** in the vicinity of the city of **Sūravara**. Bhaktiśvara married **Annemāmbā**, and founded a city called **Kalyāṇa** which became famous as **Kāmapuri**, the crest-jewel of the **Āndhra** country. The sound of the bells indicating the hours when worship was offered to god Śiva from the sunrise onwards entered the minds of the people walking along the streets of the city through the path of their ears and destroyed their sins. The learned men of the city became involved in discussion about the values of things by looking at musk and other valuable commodities exhibited for sale in the streets of the city.

Bhaktiśvara begot a son, the great **Annadēva** who surpassed **Jayaṁta** in beauty, and **Mṛigāṁka** (Moon) in brilliance, and who was as liberal as the tree of wish (*pārijāta*) in the distribution of gifts. Annadēva reduced, by the prowess of his arm, the hostile kings to the position of harlots.¹ Having gone to the help of the king of the **Turushkas** (the Muhammadans), he overcame with the sole help of his sword, the **Karnāṭa** army at **Sagara**; and like Śiva capturing the **Tripuri** he took **Jaggavāga** and (two ?) other cities from his enemies. Annadēva of the **Chōḍa-kula** fostered gods and Brāhmanas with care, and having become endowed with all kinds of wealth (*aiśvarya*) by their favour, he was greatly devoted to the worship of god **Viśvanātha**.

Annadēva married **Irugāmbikā**, a sister of king **Piṁmuriḍi**, and a daughter of **Chakravarti** of the solar family and had by her a son called **Virabhadra**. Annadēva defeated on the borders of **Attīli** all the southern kings who were hostile to him, and offered protection to 10,000 of the enemy's forces who took refuge within the walls of that city. For the purpose of protecting his friend, he performed a heroic sacrifice with **Pinayunḍi-rāja** as *adhvaryu* on the sacrificial altar of **Kāṁkarapartti** on the bank of the **Gautamī** (i.e., **Gōḍāvarī**), making the **Kannaḍa** and other enemies the sacrificial victims. Being desirous only of fame, he offered protection to the family of **Kāṭaya-Vēma**, who bowed to his feet. While Annadēva was ruling the earth, people lived without trouble, sporting happily in the sugarcane fields and areca palm groves. The wealthy city of **Mummaḍi-Prōlavāra**, the crest-jewel of his country, was a resort of the merchants from all quarters.

King Annadēva worshipped Śiva six times a day waving innumerable lights at the lotus-feet of the god; he presented a thousand cows to the deity, and strictly observed the rule of feeding the Brāhmanas daily. He built a beautiful gilded mansion of seven storeys ornamented with the gilded images of damsels bearing golden fan, fly-whisk, flag and an umbrella with pearl tassels. He fed everyday sumptuously Śaiva-Brāhmaṇas, ascetics and *yōgins*; made a gift called **Gōsahasra** to Brāhmanas in the presence of the god **Virabhadra** of **Paṭṭesa**; and performed the *dāna* called **Saptasāgara** to quench their thirst, as it were. Having surpassed **Paraśurāma** by

¹ The significance of '*vēśy-āṅganāyika-virōdhī-dharātālēndrō*' is not quite clear. [The idea seems to be that these kings were made to attend on various persons, probably at the Royal court, as the harlots have to entertain men without any choice on their part.—Ed.]

giving lands to Brāhman along with the gift called the *Suvana-Mēru*, Annadēva resembled Raghunāyaka. He caused the shrine of Virabhadra, the lord of Gōmukhagiri, and the pinnacle of the temple of Bhīmēśvara of Drākshārāma, the crest-jewel of the Āndhra country who had been worshipped by the former Chōḍa monarchs of his family, to be overlaid with gold. He also granted several villages to god Viśvēśvara of Kāśī, the patron-deity of his family, and founded for the habitation of Brāhman, a village called (after him) Uttama-Gaṇḍa-Chōḍ-Annadēvavaram in Visari-nāṇḍu at the confluence of the rivers Gaṁgā and Pirṁnasānī. Annadēva also gave to Brāhman (*Mahājanas*) an *agruhāra* called Annadēvavaram on the bank of the Gaṁgā near the western boundary of Pellūri-Śailavaram, and performed the marriages of several Brāhman couples.

The last or the seventh plate contains the names of donees who received *ṛittis* in a village, the name of which is lost. Of these, the following twenty-two received the *ṛittis* directly from the king, the donor :

No.	Name of the donee.	Father's name.	Gōtra.	No. of shares received.
1	Sirngaya	Kūchanārya	Bhāradvāja	1
2	Rāmachandra	Kōvūri Rāma	Kaumḍinya	1
3	Bhāskara	Nrihari	Kaumḍinya	1
4	Nārāyaṇa	Kāchibhaṭṭa	Kāśyapa	1
5	Aubhaḷēndra	Gūḍaparti Vallabha	Kāśyapa	1
6	Varadaya	Viddhaya	Ātrēya	1
7	Gaṁgādhareṁdra	Śrīrām-Ādima (Peda) Sim- gaya.	Kaumḍinya	1
8	Simgana	Gauraya	Bhāradvāja	1
9	Purushōttama	Āditya	Harita	1
10	Tallaya	Chimnipi Kūchaya	Harita	1
11	Viśvēśvara	Amnama	Kaumḍinya	1
12	Amnama	Gōpālabbatta	Harita	1
13	Annaya	Mumjapi Gaṁgādhara	Kaumḍinya	1
14	Lakshmaṇa	Vallabha	Bhāradvāja	1
15	Sādappula (Sādu Appala ?)	Vallabha	Kaumḍinya	1
16	Dumḍigada Nāga	Nāgaya	Kāśyapa	1
17	Mallikārjuna	Rājukomḍa Mallaya	Kāśyapa	1
18	Maḍugūri Lakkana . . . .	....	Bhāradvāja	1
19	Śrīkrishṇa	Kōlalapalli Ādima (Peda) Simgaya.	Kāśyapa	1
20	Śrīrāma	Kamḍukūri Aubhaḷa	Harita	1
21	Ananta	Śrīkrishṇamayya	Śrīvatsa	1
22	Aubhaḷa	Dēvaya	Bhāradvāja	1

One of the twenty-two donees, (No. 1) Singaya, son of Kūchanārya of the Bhāradvāja-gōtra, is said to have been a friend of the king (*avanipati-mitra*), probably the donor of the *agrahāra*. Besides the twenty-two donees enumerated above, there were two others who did not receive their shares directly from the original donor but from the other donees. The *Mahājānas*, i.e., the Brāhmins who received shares in the *agrahāra*, granted one *vr̥tti* to Janārdana, son of Sarvadēva of the Kaumḍinya-gōtra, and another to the god Kēdāra-Mahēśvara who was set up with devotion by Mādhava, son of Kaljara Kommarāja.

The inscription is important as it furnishes valuable information about the history of the Ēruva branch of the Telugu Chōḍa family. A few more records of the family including the Madras Museum Plates of Bhaktirāja,¹ have been published; but the historical information that could be gleaned from them is so meagre that little more than the names of the princes of a few generations is known. But the present grant gives a fairly full account of the part played by the members of the family in the affairs of their respective ages. Seven generations of the family, as noticed already, are described in this grant and the names mentioned in it agree, with some variations, with those furnished in the Madras Museum Plates of Bhaktirāja. The genealogical lists given in these two records are subjoined hereunder for the purpose of comparison :—

The Madras Museum Plates.

Karikāla
 ↓
 Nalla-Bhīma
 ↓
 Dāma m. Lakshmi
 ↓
 Sōma m. Sūrāmbikā
 ↓
 Gaṅgādhara m. Irugāmbā, d. of Kāmabhūpa
 of the Lunar race and a sister of Vēṅga-
 bhūpati.
 ↓
 Bhaktirāja

Present Plates.

..... = Annemāmbā
 ↓
 Ēruva-Bhīma m. Prāśāmbikā
 ↓
 Dāma m. Lakshmi
 ↓
 Sōma m. Sūrāmbikā
 ↓
 Gaṅgādhara m. Irugāmbikā
 ↓
 Kāmarāja or Bhaktirāja m. Annemāmbā
 ↓
 Annadēva m. Irugāmbikā
 ↓
 Virabhadra

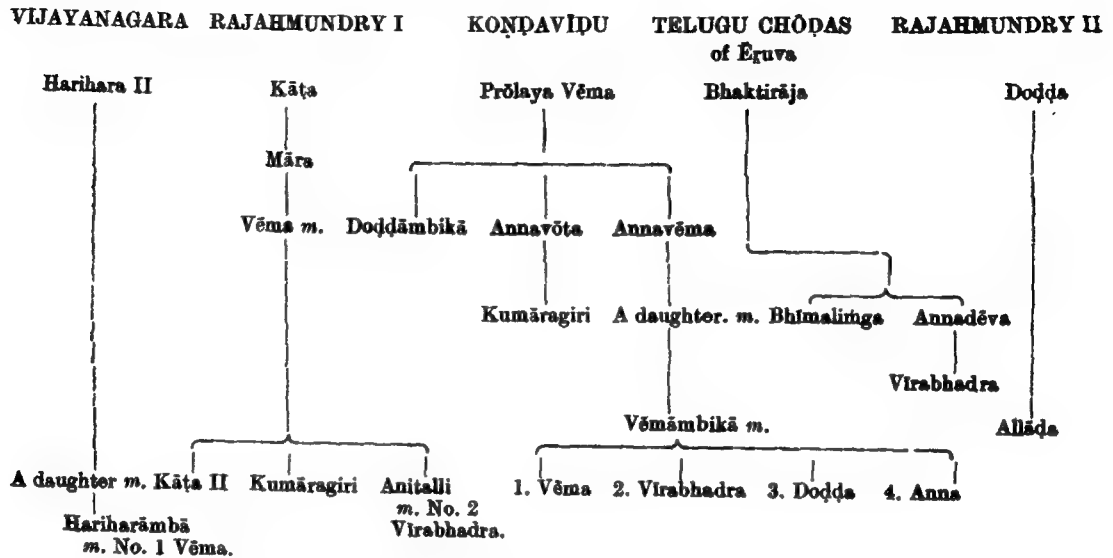
Five generations of the Ēruva Chiefs are mentioned in the Madras Museum Plates, while the present charter, however, enumerates seven generations. The name of the father of Ēruva-Bhīma and the husband of Annemāmbā is not known, as it is lost with the second plate. Besides, it also includes Annadēva and Virabhadra, a son and grandson respectively of Bhaktirāja, not mentioned in the Madras Museum Plates, thus making up a pedigree of seven generations. Though the names of the remaining members of the family are common to both the charters, there are certain variations which must be noticed. Nalla-Bhīma of the Madras Museum Plates is spoken of in the present charter as Ēruva-Bhīma. The difference is not material. Bhīma is the actual name of the prince and the terms 'Nalla' and 'Ēruva' appear to have been prefixed to it to indicate the complexion of his body and the principality over which he held sway respectively. Again the name Bhaktirāja is said to be a sobriquet, acquired by the prince on account of his excessive devotion (*bhakti*) to the god Siva, his real name being Kāmarāja. Lastly the present charter

¹ J. O. R., Vol. V, pp. 128 ff.

mentions the wives of all the chiefs of the family excepting Annadēva's son Virabhadra who was probably unmarried at the time, whereas the Madras Museum Plates refer to the names of the wives of only three. The differences between the two genealogical lists are not of much consequence; they may therefore be taken to be genuine accounts of the family pedigree.

While describing the military activity of Annadēva and his ancestors, the inscription incidentally reveals the political condition and the inter-state relations in South India during the 15th century A.D. It alludes to wars between the South Indian states in which the Ēruva chiefs were involved. A brief description of the political geography of these warring states is necessary for a clear understanding of the events mentioned in this record. At the beginning of the fifteenth century there were five major kingdoms besides a few independent or semi-independent principalities: (1) The largest and the most powerful of the kingdoms was no doubt the kingdom of Karnāṭa or Vijayanagara. It embraced the whole of South India south of the river Kṛishṇā, excluding the coastal strip comprising portions of the present Nellore, Guntur and Kistna Districts which formed an integral part of the independent kingdom of Koṇḍaviḍu. (2) The territory under the sway of the Redḍis of Koṇḍaviḍu extended along the east coast during the palmy days of their power, from Kandukūr in the Nellore District to the shores of the Chilka lake in the north; but by the beginning of the 15th century it fell into two independent subdivisions generally hostile to each other. The southern half was governed from Koṇḍaviḍu, the original capital, whereas the city of Rajahmundry became the capital of the northern kingdom. (3) On the north of the Redḍi kingdom lay the dominions of the Gajapatis of Orissa, who, on account of their ancient connection with Southern Kāṭiṅga (Ganjam, Vizagapatam and the East Godavari Districts), were vitally interested in the affairs of the Redḍi kingdom. (4) To the west of the Redḍi, the south-west of the Gajapati, and the north of the Vijayanagara territories lay the Velama kingdom of Telingāṇa with the ancient city of Warangal as its capital, and the forts of Rāchakoṇḍa and Dēvarakoṇḍa as its main strongholds. Despite the encroachments of the Bahmanī Sultans who had succeeded in annexing a considerable slice of the kingdom including the fort of Gōlkoṇḍa, the Velamas still held sway over an extensive dominion comprising Nalgōṇḍa, Mahbūbnagar, Warangal, Medak, Adilābād, and Karīmṇagar Districts of the present Hyderabad state. (5) On the west of Telingāṇa and the north of Karnāṭa extended the territory of the Bahmanī Sultans comprising the whole of the south-western Dēccan from Gōlkoṇḍa in Telingāṇa to the shores of the Arabian sea in the west. Within these major kingdoms, especially in the dominions subjected to the authority of the Redḍis, there flourished several small principalities whose loyalty and submissiveness were conditioned by the capacity of the paramount power to exact obedience. Three such principalities deserve notice in this connection: (1) Ēruva, a small principality on the borders of the Nellore, Kurnool and Guntur Districts of the Madras Presidency, was the seat of one of the numerous branches of the Telugu Chōḍa family, of which Annadēva, the donor of the present grant, and his father Bhaktiśvara were distinguished members. (2) Kōrukoṇḍa, a hill-fort in the Gōḍāvari valley at a distance of about nine miles to the north of Rajahmundry was the capital of the Mañchikōṇḍa chiefs who ruled over a small territory comprising the districts of Pāṇāra, Kōṇa, Kuravāṭa, and Chēṅṅara. (3) The coastal strip from the banks of the Gautamī to Simhāchalām in the Vizagapatam District was originally under the Koppula chiefs who had Piṭhāpuram in the East Godavari District, as their capital, but with the advent of the Mañchikōṇḍa chiefs, their authority in the Gōḍāvari valley came to an end; and they were obliged to retire eastwards into the hilly region in the western part of the present Vizagapatam District, where they appear to have been ruling at the time of Bhaktirāja's victory at Pañchadhāra.

As the ruling families of several of the states mentioned above were connected by marriage alliances which influenced the course of events described in the present record, a chart showing their inter-relationship is given below :—



Of the Ēruva chiefs mentioned in this charter, only three viz., Ēruva-Bhīma, Bhaktirāja and Annadēva, deserve any notice here.

1. **Ēruva Bhīma** has been identified with a certain Mailama-Bhīma, a chief of unknown origin, whose military exploits are recounted in a few Telugu *Chāṭu* verses,¹ but this identification is not beyond question. It is pointed out that the mother of Mailama-Bhīma, as indicated by the name itself, was Mailama, whereas it is definitely stated in the present inscription that the name of Ēruva Bhīma's mother was Annemāmbā. These two persons, therefore, could not have been identical². Apart from the literary reference, there is an epigraph assignable to the middle of the 13th century at Tāḷḷa-Proddutūr in the Cuddapah District which gives some definite information about the activities of Ēruva-Bhīma.³ This epigraph which consists of a single verse in the *Utpala-mālā* metre, states that Viṣaṇa-nāṇḍu, Chakraghoṭṭa, Manniya, Vaḍḍe Tekkali, Manthana, Vēngi, Kaḷiṅga and other countries were ruined by an invasion of Ēruva-Bhīma. The circumstances in which he had undertaken this expedition are not known. It may be remembered that Bhīma was but the chief of a small principality, and with his limited resources he could not have by himself embarked on a prolonged military campaign, and successfully penetrated to Chakrakōṭṭa in the Bastar State. He must have had a powerful ally, whom he might have actually assisted in subjugating the places mentioned in the Tāḷḷa-Proddutūr epigraph. To discover who this ally was, the age in which Bhīma himself lived must be ascertained at first. Bhaktirāja, the fifth in descent from Bhīma, made a gift of the village of Kaṇḍavakolanu or Kaḍavakolanu on Monday the 7th November A.D. 1356 to a bachelor called Viṣvanātha at Śrīśaila.⁴

¹ V. Prabhakara Sastri—*Chāṭupadya-maṇimañjarī*, ii. p. 58.

² T. N. Ramachandran—*J. O. R.*, Vol. V, p. 132. V. Apparao believes that Mailama-Bhīma was also known as Ēruva-Bhīma. How this could have been possible, he does not, however, explain (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. I, pp. 175-6).

³ No. 308 of 1935-6 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection; published in *Bhārati* Vol. XV, p. 158.

⁴ *J. O. R.*, Vol. V, p. 334.

Taking this year to be the first year of his reign and allowing a duration of 25 years for each generation, we get $1356 - (4 \times 25) = \text{A.D. } 1256$ as the approximate date of the commencement of Bhīma's reign. The whole of the Telugu country including the principality of Ēruva acknowledged the supremacy of the Kākatiyas at this period. As a matter of fact the officers of the Kākatiya king Gaṇapati were engaged in reducing Vēṅgi and Kaṭiṅga¹; and it is not unlikely that they might have subdued portions of the Central Provinces including Chakraghoṭṭa. Therefore it is not improbable that Bhīma, who from all accounts appears to have been a distinguished warrior, followed the Kākatiya armies and contributed much to their success.

2. **Bhaktirāja** also was a great warrior. The present inscription gives a full account of his achievements. He is said to have waged war successfully with several chiefs.

i. While he was still a youth. Bhaktirāja defeated Boggara and other Muhammadan warriors in a battle in the neighbourhood of Gulapūṇḍi.

ii. He defeated in the east the Gajapati near Pañchadhāra, and installed the Koppula chief on his throne.

iii. Near the city of Bharanipāḍu, he defeated the famous warrior Siṅga.

iv. In the vicinity of Pedakomḍapurī he overthrew the demoniac armies of Daburu-Khānu and others.

v. He overcame Annavōta in a battle near the town of Sūravara.

These achievements of Bhaktirāja must be assigned to a period subsequent to A.D. 1356, the year in which he granted the village Kaḍavakolanu to the Śaiva ascetic Viśvēśvara of Śrīparvata; for, in the charter recording this grant, though his valour is praised in general terms, no specific mention is made of any enemy whom he had overthrown in battle. It is unlikely that the author of the *praśasti* would have failed to mention his victories, had he any to his credit at that time. Moreover, the earliest known record of his son and successor Annadēva is dated in Śaka 1310, Vibhava, i.e., A.D. 1388-89.² Bhaktirāja's reign may be taken to have terminated some time before that year. He probably ascended the throne in A.D. 1356 itself; and it is not probable that he could have won any notable victory so early in his reign.

i. **Victory over Boggara** :—According to the present Rajahmundry Museum Plates, **his victory over the Muhammadans under Boggara** and others was won while he was yet a youth. This clearly indicates that he was a young man at the time of his accession to his ancestral throne, and harmonizes well with the comparatively long period suggested for his reign by the inscriptions mentioned above. Boggara is a Sanskrit corruption of Bughra, a name common enough among the Mussalmans of the 14th century A. D. It is not possible, however, to identify the bearer of this name in the present context. Nor is it possible to fix the locality where the encounter took place. Gulapūṇḍi is no doubt the same as Gollapūḍi; but as several villages in the Telugu country go by that name, no definite conclusions can be reached about its identity.³ It may, however, be remembered in this connection that this was Bhaktirāja's first victory, won by him while he was still a youth. As he was a scion of the Ēruva family and as his only known inscription records the gift of a village to a religious teacher residing at Śrīparvata, it may be reasonably assumed that Gulapūṇḍi where he defeated Bughra Khān was situated somewhere in the southern Telugu country.

¹ *Hyderabad Archaeological Series*, No. 3, ii. p. 16, Upparapalli Inscription of the reign of Gaṇapatidēva.—Cf. M. Somaśekhara Śarma, Kākatiyas and Kaṭiṅga, *Kaṭiṅga-Saṅchika*, p. 381.

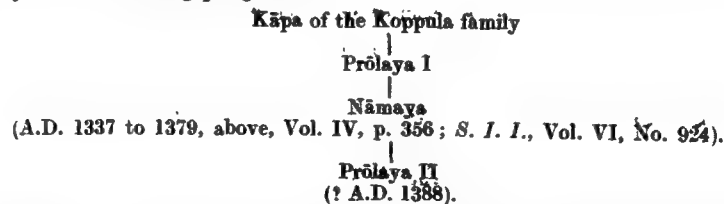
² No. 254 of 1905 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection.

³ A village called Gollapūḍi is found in the Bapatla taluk of the Guntur District; another in the Bezvada taluk and a third in the Nuzvid division of the Kistna District.

ii. *Victory over the Gajapati king*.—*Bhaktirāja's second victory was won over the Gajapati at Pañchadhāra* in the Vizagapatam District. As this victory is said to have led to the installation of the Koppula chief on his throne, it is reasonable to infer that the Koppula chief, whose territory extended up to Simhachalam in the Vizagapatam District, was expelled from his country by the Gajapati and that Bhaktirāja assisted the dispossessed chief to win back his dominions. It may be pointed out here that the Koppula chiefs were ousted, as mentioned already, from the Gōdāvarī Valley by Mañchikōṇḍa Mummaḍi-Nāyaka and his brothers (*Madras Epigraphical Report* 1911-12, Part II, para. 68, and above, Vol. XIV, p. 96) and the attack of the Gajapati on their dominions appears to have been somehow connected with the invasion of the Mañchikōṇḍa chiefs. The Gajapati seems to have attacked the Koppulas either in concert with Mummaḍi-Nāyaka or on his own account, taking advantage of the confusion caused in their dominions by the Mañchikōṇḍa invasion. The Gajapati whom Bhaktirāja defeated at Pañchadhāra must have been Vira-Bhānudeva (? A.D. 1350 to 1378), son and successor of Narasimha III; and the Koppula chief on whose behalf he waged war upon the Gajapati was probably Kāpaya II or one of his cousins.¹ Bhaktirāja, it may be recollected, was the ruler of a minor principality in the southern Telugu country; and his strength and resources must have been limited. The circumstances under which he managed not only to wage war successfully on the Gajapati, the powerful king of Kaṭiṅga, but also to restore, in the teeth of his opposition, the Koppula chief to his ancestral dominions are not even hinted at.

To understand the political situation under which these events came to pass, it is necessary to recapitulate briefly the history of the east coast of the Telugu country during the years that immediately succeeded the fall of the Kākatiya monarchy. The Muslim rule, if it had ever been effectively established, lasted only a short while. The actual administration of the country remained in the hands of the Hindus. The country was partitioned among a host of petty kings, seventy-five in number, according to the Kaluvachern grant of Anitalli dated A.D. 1423²; and they, having united together under the leadership

¹ The Dōnepūṇḍi grant of Nāmaya-Nāyaka of A.D. 1338 (above, Vol. IV, p. 356) and the Simhachalam inscription of his son Prōla II, dated A.D. 1388 (*S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 822) which give the genealogical account of the Koppula family yield the following pedigree:



The date of the latter inscription is unfortunately partially effaced. The last two figures preserved in the chronogram; 'kēṇḍu' i.e., '10' (*ibid.*, l. 9) enable us to restore the date completely. It is said that Prōla II, the donor of the inscription under consideration, was the son of Nāmaya, grandson of Prōla I and great-grandson of Kāpaya. Nāmaya mentioned in this record is identical with the donor of the Dōnepūṇḍi grant dated Ś. 1259. He also figures as the donor of another epigraph at Simhachalam (*S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 924) dated Ś. 1291. His son Prōlaya could not have been living in Ś. 1210. Since the latest of Nāmaya's inscriptions is dated in Ś. 1291, the first two figures of the date of Prōlaya II in the inscription must be 13. It is therefore obvious that the date of the inscription in question is Ś. 1310 (= A.D. 1388).

Besides the chiefs mentioned in the above pedigree, Koppula-Pōli Nāyaṇḍu, evidently an earlier member of the family who flourished about A.D. 1269 (*S. I. I.*, Vol. IV, No. 765), and a certain Koppula Kāpaya-Nāyaka (*S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 821) who lived about A.D. 1360 are referred to in the inscriptions. Their position in the family pedigree cannot be ascertained at present.

² *Journal of the Telugu Academy*, Vol. I, p. 107.

of a certain Prōlaya-Nāyaka, expelled the Muhammadans and re-established the Hindu independence. Prōlaya was succeeded by Kāpaya, and after the demise of the latter the petty chiefs asserted their independence; but soon the stronger subdued their weaker neighbours and laid the foundations of powerful kingdoms. One of these was the Redḍi chief Prōlaya-Vēma, the ruler of Addanki, in the southern fringe of the present Guntur District. He welded together the small states in the coastal region to the south of the Kṛishṇā into a strong kingdom, and extended his territory further by bringing the whole of the east coast as far as the frontier of Orissa under his sway. His victories on the east coast are detailed in a copper-plate charter dated in A.D. 1336, where, among other things, it is said that he crushed the honour of Kaḷiṅgarāya, burnt the abode of Oḍḍiyarāya and confounded the Rāya of Jantunāḍu, sported in the waters of Kuṇḍi-prabhā (the Guṇḍlakamma), Sahyajā (the Kṛishṇā) and Gautamī (the Gōḍāvarī), and that he granted many *agrahāras* to the Brāhmins, and established *satras* (feeding houses) in the country lying on both the banks of as well as in between the rivers Brahmakuṇḍī (the Guṇḍlakamma), Kṛishṇavēṇī, Gōḍāvarī and Mahānadi¹. It is obvious that Vēma's military activity extended over the whole east coast from the river Guṇḍlakamma in the south to Cuttack on the banks of the Mahānadi in the north. He does not, however, appear to have retained all his northern conquests; and his authority in the north of the Gōḍāvarī did not perhaps long outlast the period of conquest, for the Gajapati seems to have soon reasserted his power and recovered the country as far as the Gōḍāvarī, as is covertly alluded to in the charter under consideration. Moreover, an epigraph at Pañchadhārāla in the Vizagapatam District dated A.D. 1403, suggests that Chōḍa II, the grandfather of the Kōṇa-Haihaya chief Chōḍa III, who must have lived about the middle of the 14th century A.D., was an ally, if not actually a subordinate of the Gajapati². Chōḍa II probably ousted the Koppula family from its hereditary possessions with the help of the Gajapati; and the dispossessed member turned for help to Annavōta, who, by this time, had succeeded his father Vēma on the throne of Koṇḍaviḍu. As a matter of fact, Annavōta's presence in the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry at a striking distance from the southern frontier of Kaḷiṅga about this time is testified to by an inscription at Drākshārāma of A.D. 1357.³ Moreover, in one of Annavēma's early records dated A.D. 1371 it is stated that Annavōta overthrew his enemies from the Kṛishṇā to the Gōḍāvarī, thence as far as the Vindhyas.⁴ There is thus sufficient evidence to justify the assumption that Annavōta had marched with his army against the Gajapati about A.D. 1357 to drive him back and restore the Koppula chief to his throne; and Bhaktirāja, who must have been a subordinate of Annavōta at that time, had accompanied him and distinguished himself in the campaign. If what is said above is not unreasonable, it may be stated that the battle of Pañchadhārā mentioned in this charter appears to have been a decisive engagement, which finally brought the campaign to a close.

iii. *Victory at Bharanipāḍu*:—Bhaktirāja is said to have **vanquished** a king called **Singa** in the vicinity of the city of Bharanipāḍu⁵. This king still remains unidentified. There were at

¹ No. 5 of 1919-20, above, Vol. XXI, pp. 267 ff.

² *S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 657.

³ *S. I. I.*, Vol. IV, No. 1387.

⁴ *Andhrapatrika* (Annual Number 1922, p. 168).

*Jitrā śrīty-Annavōta-bhūtalapati-rvīrān-arātīn balād=
ā Kṛishṇā-tatīnī-tatād-bhuvanam-apy-ā Gautamī-śrōtasah |
ā Vindhyād=iti yat=kaṇḍra-rachanaṁ yasy-āpadāna-stutau
pratyabdam pratipaksha-dēśa-jayinas-tat-pūrvapakshāyitam ||*

⁵ In the *Annual Report on Epigraphy* (Southern Circle) for 1911-12, Part ii, p. 80, it is said that Bhaktirāja killed a king called Singa close to the town of Bharanipāḍu. This is not quite accurate as the text of the inscription has *vyanaishit* meaning only 'vanquished'.

this time two kings of this name. One of them was the Velama ruler of Rāchakoṇḍa in the present Nalgonda District of the Nizam's State, who was assassinated at the siege of Jallipalli in Śaka 1283, Śārvari, (A.D. 1361-62) by Tambaḷa Bommajiyya¹; the other was a brother of Mummaḍi-Nāyaka, the ruler of Kōrukoṇḍa in the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry. According to the Śrīraṅgam plates dated A.D. 1358-59, Mummaḍi-Nāyaka who conquered 'the countries of Pānāra, Kōna, Kuravāṭa, Cheṅgara and others lying on either bank of the river Gōdāvarī, allowed his younger brother Siṅga' to govern the principality of Kōṭyapuri.² Now, the king Siṅga whom Bhaktirāja vanquished must have been one of these two chiefs. It may be noted that most of Bhaktirāja's activities were confined to the valley of the Gōdāvarī, and he does not appear to have had any connection with Teliṅgāṇa where Siṅga of Rāchakoṇḍa was ruling. Moreover, the *Velugōṭivāri-vamśāvali*³ which enumerates the enemies of the Velama king does not mention Bhaktirāja among his foes. Therefore, it is unlikely that he should have come into conflict with Bhaktirāja. There is, on the other hand, much presumptive evidence for believing that Siṅga mentioned in the present charter is identical with Siṅga, one of Mummaḍi-Nāyaka's younger brothers. It may be noted that Mummaḍi who conquered the territory on both the banks of the Gōdāvarī entrusted the government of Kōṭyapuri and Tāḍipāka to his younger brothers Siṅga and Ganna respectively. Kōṭyapuri⁴ is identical with Koṭṭhām in the Tuni division and Tāḍipāka with Tāṭipāka in the Razole taluk of the East Godavari District. This territory originally belonged to the Koppula chiefs. According to the Dōnepūṇḍi grant of A.D. 1338, Koppula Nāmaya-Nāyaka was ruling at that time 'the *Āndhrakhaṇḍa-maṇḍala*' 'extending from the banks of the Gautamī river (i.e., the Gōdāvarī) to Kaḷiṅga' with the city of Piṭhāpuri as his capital.⁵ Now, in the Śrīraṅgam plates of Mummaḍi-Nāyaka dated A.D. 1358, it is stated, as noted already, that he conquered the country on both the banks of the Gōdāvarī. It follows from this that Mummaḍi-Nāyaka wrested this territory from Nāmaya-Nāyaka between A.D. 1338 and 1358. As Mummaḍi married a niece of the famous Āndhra-Suratrāja Kāpaya-Nāyaka, a fact which is particularly mentioned in the records of Mummaḍi and his brothers,⁶ it is not unlikely that he should have received the help of his powerful relative in effecting the conquest. If Bhaktirāja, as stated in the present grant, had restored the Koppula chief to his kingdom, he could not have accomplished the task without coming into conflict with Mummaḍi-Nāyaka and his brothers. Therefore the Siṅga who sustained a defeat at Bharanipāḍu at the hands of Bhaktirāja has to be identified with Siṅga, the younger brother of Mummaḍi-Nāyaka of the Kōrukoṇḍa family.

iv. *The victory at Pedakoṇḍa* :—The town Pedakoṇḍa, where Bhaktirāja won a victory over the Muhammadans under **Daburu-Khānu**, is identical with Pedakoṇḍa in the Bhadrachalam taluk of the East Godavari District. The original form of Daburu-Khānu which is but a Telugu corruption of the name of the chief, cannot be definitely restored, as it may stand for Dabīr Khān or Zafar Khān. In any case, his identity cannot be established with certainty, though it may be surmised that he must have been connected with one of the Muslim sovereigns who invaded Tilang at this time.

¹ The *Velugōṭivāri-vamśāvali*, p. 23.

² Above, Vol. XIV, p. 96.

³ The *Velugōṭivāri-vamśāvali*, pp. 17-18.

⁴ K. Rama Sastri and T. A. Gopinatha Rao have suggested different identifications for Kōṭyapuri. The former identifies it with Kōṭipalli on the Vṛiddha-Gautamī (above, Vol. XIII, p. 261); and the latter with a place called Kōṭi in the Rajahmundry taluk of the East Godavari District (*ibid.*, Vol. XIV, p. 89).

⁵ Above, Vol. IV, p. 371.

⁶ *Ibid.*, Vol. XIII, p. 272; Vol. XIV, p. 95.

The Delhi Sultan, Fīrūz Tughlūq made an attack upon Jājnagar in 761 A.H. (October-November. A.D. 1360) : he marched upon the city of Banārasi (Cuttack), the capital of the Gajapati. On the approach of Fīrūz, the Gajapati, Vīra-Bhānudēva II, crossed the Mahānadī and retreated towards Tilang. The Sultan pursued him for a day, but giving up the pursuit busied himself in the neighbourhood.¹ Though the Sultan himself abandoned the pursuit, he might have entrusted the task to Zafar Khān, the pretender to the throne of Lakhnauti, who appears to have accompanied him during the expedition. It is not unlikely that this Muslim chief should have advanced as far as the Gōdāvarī where he might have been opposed at Pedakoṇḍa by Bhaktirāja and repulsed. This is one possibility. The other is that Bhaktirāja might have come into conflict with the forces of the Bahmanī Sultan, and won a victory over them near Pedakoṇḍa. The Bahmanī armies invaded Tilang during the period of Bhaktirāja's rule on two occasions, once during the reign of 'Alā-ud-dīn Hasan and then again in the time of his son and successor Muḥammad Shāh I. As the second invasion did not proceed beyond Filampāṭan or Vēlampāṭan, a place which is said to have been at a distance of eight days' journey from Kalyan,² the army could not have reached Pedakoṇḍa on the eastern bank of the Gōdāvarī in the Ghats. But the invasion which was led by 'Alā-ud-dīn himself in person in A.D. 1357, appears to have swept over the whole of Tilang. Sayyid 'Alī gives a brief account of the invasion in his *Burhān-i-Ma'āshir*.

"After spending some time in pleasure in his capital, he (the Sultan) was again desirous of conquering the country of Tilang. For nearly a year he travelled through the country of Teliṅgāna, and having taken possession of the district of Bhōnāgīr, he overthrew the idol-temples and instead of them built mosques and public schools."³

Sayyid 'Alī's account is corroborated by the evidence of the contemporary inscriptions. An epigraph of Pillalamarri near Warangal which may belong to A.D. 1357 records that the temple of Erukēśvaradēva which was destroyed by Sultan 'Alā-ud-dīn was rebuilt by a certain Erapōtu Lemka, a servant of Kāpaya-Nāyaka, the lord of the Āndhra country.⁴ The invasion did not stop with Bhōnāgīr but spread south-eastwards towards the sea, and reached Dharanikōṭa on the banks of the Kṛishṇā. An epigraph in the temple of Amarēśvara at Amarāvati in the Guntur District dated 22nd July A.D. 1361, describes how Kētaya Vēma, an officer of king Anavōta of Koṇḍaviḍu, repulsed the Muslim cavalry and re-installed the image of Amarēśvara, which had evidently been destroyed by the invaders.⁵ Kētaya was assisted in the battle by Malla, one of king Anavōta's paternal uncles. In an unpublished copper-plate charter of Śivaliṅga Redḍi, a descendant of Malla, dated A.D. 1413, it is said that Malla defeated 'Alā-ud-dīn and other Turushka warriors.⁶ Therefore, the Bahmanī invasion was checked by the Redḍis at Dharanikōṭa and turned back. Though 'Alā-ud-dīn's activities in other parts of Tilang are not known, he appears to have reduced the country from Bhōnāgīr to the banks of the river Gōdāvarī to subjection. 'His dominions', according to Sayyid 'Alī, 'extended from the east side of Daulatābād to Bhōnāgīr and the river Gōdāvarī both north and south sides—to

¹The *Tarikh-i-Mubārak Shāhi* (G. O. S. LXIII), pp. 135-36.

²Briggs : *Ferishta*, Vol. II, p. 303.

³*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 152.

⁴*Teliṅgāna Inscriptions*, p. 163.

⁵*S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 226.

⁶*Local Records*, Vol. III, p. 469.

*Vēmādhīpasy-āvarajō=pi Malla-
Bhūvallabhō=sau jagān-obba-gaṇḍah
Alāvadīn-ādī-Turushka-mallān
samullasad=bhalla-gaṇān vijitya ||*

the river Ganga'.¹ An officer who probably bore the name of Dabir or Zafar Khān and who was in the service of Sultan 'Alā-ud-dīn might have attempted to cross the Ghats through the valley of the Gōdāvarī and found his path barred at Pedakōṇḍa by Bhaktirāja, who having inflicted a defeat on his forces, had compelled him to retreat.

v. *Victory at Sūravaram* :—The last military achievement attributed to Bhaktirāja in these plates is a **victory** which he is said to have won over a certain king called **Annavōta** at Sūravaram. The identity of this king cannot be definitely established, as there were two contemporaries of Bhaktirāja who bore this name. One of them was the Redḍi ruler, Anavōta, the son of Prōlaya Vēma, who has been already mentioned in an earlier context. The other was Anavōta, the son of Rāvu Siṅga, the king of Rāchakōṇḍa in Tilang. Which of these two was the king who sustained defeat at the hands of Bhaktirāja on the battlefield of Sūravaram cannot be determined at present with certainty.² We may, however, attempt to solve the problem by ascertaining the location of Sūravaram, the site of the battle, which may perhaps throw some light on the subject. The place, however, cannot be identified definitely. Several villages of the name of Sūravaram or Sūrapuram are mentioned in the *Postal Directory* and the *List of Villages in the Madras Presidency*.

Village.	Taluk or Division.	District.
1. Sūravaram	Chicacole	Ganjam.
2. Sūravaram	Palakonda	Vizagapatam.
3. Sūravaram	Bhadrachalam	E. Godavari.
4. Sūravaram	Bhadrachalam	E. Godavari.
5. Sūravaram-Annavaram	Tuni	E. Godavari.
6. Sūravaram	Nuzvid	Kistna.
7. Sūrapuram	Nidadavole	W. Godavari.

Assuming that all these villages were in existence during the period under consideration, it is difficult to discover which of these was actually the site of the battle. Of these, Sūravaram in the Chicacole taluk of the Ganjam District may be excluded from the present discussion, as it lay outside the Redḍi dominions. All the other villages must have been included in the Redḍi kingdom, as they are situated in the deltas of the Kṛishṇā and the Gōdāvarī. It is interesting to note

¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 152. The description of the boundaries given here is rather vague; and the translation agrees with the original text closely. In the published Persian text, the passage describing the boundaries runs as follows:

بالجمله سلطان را درین مدت اکثر بلاد و قلاع ملک دکن در قبضه اقتدار و ضبط بندگان درگاه
گیتی پناه در آمد - چنانچه از جانب شرق دولت آباد تا بهوئیرو آب گوداوری جانب شمال و جانب
جنوب تا آب گنگ . . . بود -

(*Tarikh-i-Burhān-i-Ma'ūfir*, p. 28). It is rather difficult to understand how the Gōdāvarī could have formed the boundary of Sultan 'Alā-ud-dīn's territory both on the north and the south. The idea which the author wanted to convey was probably that 'Alā-ud-dīn's dominions extended from Bhōnāgir to the Gōdāvarī and also from Gōdāvarī to (Pen) Gaṅgā.

² Mr. T. N. Ramachandran asserts that the identity of Anavōta, who was defeated at Sūravaram, 'becomes clear from the Vānapalli plates of Anna-Vēma dated Śaka 1300' (*J. O. R.*, 1931, p. 133.). It is true that the inscription in question mentions the Redḍi king Anavōta, but does not offer any clue which may lead to the identification of Bhaktirāja's enemy. The Vānapalli plates, as a matter of fact, have no bearing on the present problem.

that no village of the name of Sūravaram is found in Tilang, as far as it can be ascertained from the available records. Nor is there any evidence to show that Anavōta of Rāchakoṇḍa had ever led an expedition to the coastal region. Taking all these facts into consideration, the probability appears to be that the person who suffered defeat at Sūravaram was not Anavōta of Rāchakoṇḍa, but the Redḍi ruler of Koṇḍaviḍu of that name. Another fact which lends support to this view must be noticed in this connection. During the latter part of the reign of Anavōta there was a widespread rebellion against his authority in the northern part of his kingdom, and he lost control over the territory beyond the Kṛishṇā.¹ Though the incidents of this rebellion are not yet fully known, the total absence of the Redḍi inscriptions between A.D. 1363 and 1371 seems to indicate that the power of the Redḍis suffered an eclipse. The attack on Dharaṇikōṭa by Māda, the younger brother of Anavōta of Rāchakoṇḍa, and the defeat of Anavōta-Redḍi in battle and his flight must also be assigned to this period.² Taking advantage of the troubles that had beset his overlord, Bhaktirāja appears to have joined the rebels, and asserted his independence. Anavōta appears to have made an attempt to put down the rebellion and reassert his authority. The rebel forces, however, proved too much for his strength and he sustained defeat at the hands of Bhaktirāja.

Two more facts are mentioned in the present inscription about Bhaktirāja. (1) He laid the foundations of a new city which he called after his own name **Kāmapurī** : and it seems to have been made the capital of his principality. The situation of Kāmapurī is not definitely known, as no village of that name is found at present in the east coast of the Telugu country. There are, however, two villages bearing the name of Kāmavaram which is generally believed to be a corruption of Kāmapuram. One of them is now a deserted village in the Ellavaram division of the East Godavari District : and the other is situated in the Vizianagaram taluk of the Vizagapatam District. Besides these villages there is a Kāmavarapupāḍu in the Ellavaram division, and a Kāmavarapukōṭa, the headquarters of a taluk of that name in the West Godavari District. Mr. V. Apparao believes that the latter is identical with the town founded by Bhaktirāja.³ (2) He also married **Annemāmbā** by whom he had a son called Annadēva. Bhaktirāja had according to Niśsaṅku Kommana, a contemporary writer, another son called Bhīma or Bhīmaliṅga,⁴ of whom nothing is said in this inscription. This has probably to be attributed to the want of cordiality between the brothers, the causes of which will be explained presently.

¹ *Madras Ep. Rep.*, 1915, part ii, para. 59. This record (No. 20 of 1915) which was set up at Śrīśailam in A.D. 1377 by an officer of Koṇḍaviḍu refers to certain events which seem to have taken place before Anavēma's accession. It is said that Anavēma destroyed a number of forts both on land and in the water (*sthala-durga* and *jala-durga*) in the deltas of the Kṛishṇā and the Gōdāvarī. This region was, according to Errā Peggada's *Harivamśa* under the sway of Prōlaya Vēma (*Harivamśa*, part ii, 2 : 1 : 4 : 1) : and it was included in the dominions subjected to the authority of Anavōta until A.D. 1357, as shown by the Drākshārāmam epigraph cited above. There would have been no occasion for Anavēma to conquer, much less to destroy the *sthala-durgas* and *jala-durgas* in the deltas of the Kṛishṇā and the Gōdāvarī, had there been no rebellion in this region. Anavēma's authority was recognized in the Gōdāvarī valley from the very beginning of his reign, as shown by his inscriptions (above, Vol. III, pp. 286 ff. ; *S. I. I.*, Vol. VI, No. 785 ; *ibid.*, Vol. V, No. 115 ; above, Vol. III, pp. 59 ff. : No. 446 of 1893 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection). Therefore, the rebellion referred to above must have broken out before Anavēma's accession. Probably Anavēma himself was benefited by the rebellion ; for, in the Śrīśailam inscription mentioned above, Anavēma is said to have been the lord chosen by the damsel of sovereignty in a *svayamvara* (*rājya-ramaraṇī-svayamvara-labdha-nāyaka*). This is a covert statement which alludes to the illegal assumption of sovereignty by Anavēma, setting aside his nephew Kumāragiri, the rightful heir to the throne. Anavōta probably died unexpectedly while the rebels were still at large ; and taking advantage of the prevailing confusion in the kingdom, Anavēma seized the throne ignoring the claims of his young nephew.

² The *Velugōḍivāri-vamśāvalī*, vv. 80, 81.

³ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. I, p. 181.

⁴ Niśsaṅku Kommana : *Śivalilāvilāsam*. Above, Vol. XIII, p. 241 (see note 1 on p. 29 below).

How long Bhaktirāja continued to rule his principality after the events described above is not quite clear. According to an epigraph summarised by the Mackenzie Surveyors, his son and successor Annadēva was crowned in the city of R(K?)ālavaram on Āsvīja, śu. 10, of the year Parābhava corresponding to Śaka 1259.¹ The date is unfortunately irregular. The Śaka and the cyclic years do not agree. The cyclic year Parābhava does not coincide with Śaka 1259 but with Śaka 1289. As the Śaka year given in the record yields a date far too early for the coronation of Annadēva, it must be rejected as inaccurate. If, on the other hand, the cyclic year is taken to be correct, Annadēva's coronation may be said to have taken place in A.D. 1366. Much however cannot be built on the basis of the information furnished by this inaccurately dated record especially as the original is not available for our examination. The earliest genuine record of Annadēva is a short epigraph dated Śaka 1310, Vibhava (A.D. 1388); and it registers the gift of Kāñchanapalle to the temple of Śiva at Tripurāntakam in the Markapur taluk of the Kurnool District.² He seems to have passed under a cloud during the next sixteen years; and when at the end of this period he emerges into light again, he is found ruling with full titles of sovereignty in the neighbourhood of Drākshārāmam.³ There is reason to believe that he was in exile, for, in the first place, the provenance of the inscriptions of Kumāragiri-Redḍi who ascended the throne in or about A.D. 1382 clearly shows that the lower Gōdāvarī valley wherein lay the family estates of Annadēva was included in the Redḍi kingdom.⁴ The Komāragirivaram grant dated A.D. 1408-09 clearly states that Kumāragiri-Redḍi bestowed on Kāṭaya-Vēma the Eastern kingdom with Rājamahēndranagara as its headquarters.⁵ It is obvious that the lower Gōdāvarī valley was under the control of Kumāragiri at the time of his death which took place in or about A.D. 1404. Moreover, in the Anaparti grant dated A.D. 1390, it is said that the east coast up to Simhādri (*i.e.*, Simhāchalam in the Vizagapatam District) acknowledged Kumāragiri's rule; and that he, being desirous of bequeathing to his young son, Anavōta II, a larger kingdom than he possessed, planned the conquest of fresh territories extending to the east of that hill.⁶ Secondly Vēdagiri I, the Velama king of Dēvarakōṇḍa in Telingāṇa (Nalgonda District of the Hyderabad State), a contemporary of Kumāragiri, is said to have offered protection to Annadēva.⁷ It follows from these facts that Annadēva was living abroad owing to the occupation of his territories by the Redḍi kings.

The circumstances which led to the displacement of Annadēva may now be envisaged briefly. Anavēma who seized the throne of Koṇḍaviḍu on the death of his elder brother, planned an expedition against the rebels in the deltas of the Kṛishṇā and the Gōdāvarī, and brought them soon under control. According to the Śrīśailam epigraph cited above, Anavēma "demolished the *jala-durga* of Divi (Kistna District) and captured all the *jala-durgas* at the confluence of the Gautamī (*i.e.*, Gōdāvarī) and the sea, broke open the *sthala-durgas* of Rājamahēndra, Niravadyanagara (Nidadavole in the West Godavari District) and others; and planted pillars proclaiming his glory at the foot of the Simhāchalam and the Vindhya".⁸ Anavēma seems to have made use of force as well as diplomacy in re-establishing his authority. He crippled the strength of the Telugu Chōḍas who were a formidable obstacle in his path, by creating dissensions among the members

¹ *Mac. Mss.* 15-4-4, pp. 231 ff. The epigraph in question is said to have been engraved on a slab lying outside the postern (*diḍḍi gumnam*) gate of the fort of Rajahmundry. Its present whereabouts are not known.

² No. 254 of 1905 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection.

³ No. 421 of 1893 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection.

⁴ *S. I. I.*, Vol. V, Nos. 7, 155; above, Vol. IV, pp. 328-9.

⁵ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, p. 210.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 293-4.

⁷ The *Velugōḍivāri-vaṁśāvali*, 122.

⁸ No. 20 of 1915: *Madras Ep. Rep.*, 1915, part ii, para. 59.

of the family. Bhaktirāja was probably dead by this time : and differences seem to have arisen between his sons regarding succession. Taking advantage of this, Anavēma entered into an alliance with his son Bhīma or Bhīmalīnga, and secured his support and loyalty permanently by bestowing on him the hand of his daughter in marriage.¹ Annadēva must have felt helpless against this combination, and sought refuge in his ancestral estate of Ēṛuva, where he seems to have kept up a precarious existence up to 1388 A.D. The expansion of the Vijayanagara kingdom towards the east seems to have ousted him even from this place of refuge, and he became a wanderer seeking his fortunes in the courts of the Deccan. This accounts for the inveterate hostility which he displayed in later life towards the Reddis and their allies, the Rāyas of Vijayanagara.

3. The first achievement of Annadēva that is described in these plates is the assistance which he rendered to the Turushka king in defeating the king of the Karṇāṭa at Sagara. This statement clearly indicates that Annadēva entered into an alliance with the Bahmanī Sultan. The Karṇāṭa army that is mentioned in the inscription is the army of Vijayanagara : and Sagara is a city of that name on the northern bank of the Kṛishṇā in the Gulburga District of the Nizam's Dominions. It stood on the frontier between Gulburga and Vijayanagara, and constantly figured in the wars between the two kingdoms. It follows from this that the Turushka king who was engaged in fighting with the Karṇāṭaka army was the Bahmanī Sultan. Now between A.D. 1388, the date of Annadēva's Tripurāntakam record, and A.D. 1416 when he appears to have died.²

¹ The marriage of Bhīmalīnga with the daughter of king Anavēma is referred to by contemporary Telugu writers. According to Niśsamku Kommana, Allāda married Vēmāmbikā, the daughter of Bhīmalīnga who was the son of Chōla-Bhaktiśvara :—

*Ma : Bharita-śrīnidhi-yam-mahīramanud=oppeṇ=Jōla-Bhakti-kshiti-
svara-sūnumd-āgu Bhīmalīnga-manujēśa-śrēsthū sat-putri bhā-
svara-kārunya-dasā-jan-āvana-vidhā-samdhātī Vēmāmbikan
variṇiñchen=bati-bhakti-gaurava-īridha-vyāpāra-nity-āmbikan*

(Śivalīlāvilāsam, canto 1.) Śrīnātha states that Vēmāmbikā was a grand-daughter (i.e., daughter's daughter) of king Anavēma of Konḍaviḍu :—

*Ma : Anavēma-kshiti-pālu-pautri-yāgu-Vēmāmbā-Mahādēvikiṇ
ghanud=uyy-Allāda-bhūmi-pālunaku samgrāma-sthali-gāmdēvul
tanayul=Vēma-vibhūndu Vīra-casudh-ādhyakshundu Doḍḍa-prabhūm-
dunnu=Annayayy bāhu-vikrama-kal-ūtōp-pratāp-ōddhatul (Kāśikhandamu, canto 1, v. 32).*

It is obvious that Vēmāmbā's parents were Bhīmalīnga, the son of Chōla Bhaktiśvara and an unnamed daughter of king Anavēma.

Chōla Bhaktiśvara	Anavēma
Bhīmalīnga m.	daughter
Vēmāmbikā m. Doḍḍaya Allā	

² An epigraph (S. I. I., Vol. V, No. 113) at Palivela dated January A.D. 1417 states that Doḍḍaya-Redḍi Allāda destroyed the family of Kātaya-Vēma's enemy completely and restored the kingdom to his children. These were Kātaya-Vēma's son Kumāragiri who succeeded him on the throne of Rajahmundry, and daughter Anitalli who married Virabhadra-Redḍi, the second son of Allāda (*Journal of the Telugu Academy*, Vol. II, p. 108). Now, the present grant makes it quite clear that Annadēva was fighting with Kātaya-Vēma's family about A.D. 1416. So far as we are aware, the only enemy of Kātaya-Vēma who having displaced the latter's children occupied their kingdom was Annadēva. Therefore, the enemy of Kātaya-Vēma whom Allāda-Redḍi destroyed with the whole of his family before January A.D. 1417 in order to restore Kātaya-Vēma's children to their paternal kingdom must have been none other than Annadēva. Any doubt that may still linger in our minds is completely set at rest by the poet Śrīnātha who flourished at the court of Vēma and Virabhadra, sons of Allāda-Redḍi. He states that Allāda destroyed the overweening pride of Virabhadra and Annadēva of the Solar family :

Bhānumat-kula-Virabhadra-Annadēv-ādi-garva-samambhūmbu-gāku chēsi (Bhīmēśvara-purānam, 1 : 62).

It is therefore certain that Allāda-Redḍi came into conflict with Annadēva-Chōda and his son Virabhadra and killed them before January 1417 A.D.

there was one major conflict between the Bahmanī Sultan and the king of Vijayanagara in which the city of Sagara played an important part. Firūz Khān and Ahmad Khān, the nephews of Mahmūd Shāh Bahmanī, rose up in revolt in 800 A.H. (A.D. 1397) against the latter's son Shams-ud-dīn in Sagar. Though defeated in war and reconciled ostensibly to the Sultan, who again received them into favour, they did not give up their designs upon the throne; and treacherously seized it on the 14th February, A.D. 1397.¹ Firūz Khān ascended the throne and assumed the title of Firūz Shāh Bahmanī. The Hindu chiefs who held estates from the Bahmanī Sultan in the neighbourhood of Sagar revolted immediately as a protest against Firūz Shāh's usurpation. Though the Bahmanī historians do not explicitly mention this rebellion, they refer to an invasion of Dēvarāya of Vijayanagara and the suppression of the Hindu rebels at Sagar by Firūz Shāh. According to Ferishta, Dēvarāya invaded the territories of the Raichūr Doab in 801 A.H. with the object of capturing the forts of Mudkal and Raichūr, but Firūz Shāh moved towards Sagar to frustrate his attempt. "After this", says he, "he put to death a Zemindar, with seven or eight thousand Hindoos, who had long been very refractory".² Sayyid 'Alī more definitely alludes to a rebellion of the Hindu chiefs. According to him, Firūz Shāh declared a *jihād* on Vijayanagara in 802 A.H. (A.D. 1399) and "marched towards Sagar. When the chiefs of that district heard of the Sultan's approach, they tendered their submission, and paid the revenue of the country into the royal treasury, and so remained secure from attack by the army."³ It is evident that about A.D. 1398-99 there was a Hindu rebellion in the district of Sagar against the Bahmanī Sultan; and the rebels actually took possession of the fort. Nizām-ud-dīn Ahmad declares that the first action of Sultan Firūz Shāh, after his accession to the throne, was an attack upon the fort of Sagar where some rebels who had taken possession of it had defied his authority.⁴ But the Sultan declared war upon the king of Vijayanagara, even before he marched to put down the rebels. Very probably the rebels secured help from the king of Vijayanagara, and placed the stronghold of Sagar in his hands; otherwise, there could have been no battle at Sagar, as stated in this inscription between the forces of the Bahmanī Sultan and the Kārṇāṭaka army. Another fact which seems to throw some light on this problem may be mentioned here. In the *Tāladīpikā* of Sāluva Gōpa-Tippa, one of the *tālas* is called 'Sagaradurggādivipāṭaḥ', i.e., 'he who first broke into the fort of Sagar'. This is, indeed, a curious name for a *tāla*; but Tippa states in explanation of the name that the *dēśya-tālas*, forty-one in number, were named by him after his titles.⁵ Therefore, Sāluva Gōpa-Tippa had the title of 'Sagaradurggādivipāṭaḥ'. Much is not known of Tippa's military activities, and the Sāluva inscriptions so far as they are known do not allude to the capture of Sagara by Tippa or his immediate ancestors. Probably like the names of other *tālas*, 'Samburāyasthāpakaḥ', 'Dakṣhiṇasuratrāṇaripāṭaḥ', the 'Sagaradurggādivipāṭaḥ' was also called after one of his ancestral titles. In that case, it alludes to the capture of Sagara (Sagar) by one of the early chiefs of the Sāluva family in the service of the king of Vijayanagara. As there is no other known earlier instance of a Vijayanagara attack on the fort, the title perhaps had its origin in the capture of Sagar about this time.

¹ *Burhan-i-Ma'āşir* (Ind. Ant., Vol. XXVIII, p. 185); Briggs: *Ferishta*, Vol. II, pp. 359-60.

² Briggs: *Ferishta*, Vol. II, p. 370.

³ *Burhān-i-Ma'āşir* (Ind., Ant. Vol. XXVIII, p. 186).

⁴ *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī* (Bib. Ind.), iii. p. 13.

چون در قلعه سگر بعضی مردان متحصن شده بودند - اولاً بگو شمال آن گروه مترجه شد -

⁵ Mysore Or. Mss. Library, No. 3809, 10th fol. f. I am obliged to Mr. M. Ramakrishna Kavi for extracting for my use this portion from his own copy of the *Tāladīpikā*.

Annadēva evidently joined Fīrūz Shāh in his expedition against the fort of Sagar in A.D. 1398-9 and helped him to defeat the Karṇāṭakas and regain the fort. The help which he rendered to Fīrūz Shāh could not have been substantial. As a prince living in exile, he could not have had a large following. Fīrūz Shāh was an ambitious king. He had designs on Teliṅgāṇa and the rich deltas of the Kṛishṇā and the Gōdāvarī. A pretender to the sovereignty of this region would be a pliable tool in his hands, and could be used to his advantage when occasion arose. Moreover, it was desirable to secure an ally who might embarrass the king of Vijayanagara on the east coast in the event of a war in which he might become involved. These considerations prompted Fīrūz Shāh to enter into an alliance with Annadēva and associate him in his war with the Karṇāṭakas.

The **second achievement** attributed to Annadēva is the **conquest of Jaggavāga**, and other enemy cities. Though at the present state of knowledge the identification of these cities and the enemies to whom they belonged is not possible, the capture of these cities seems to indicate Annadēva's return from Gulburga. An inscription in the Bhīmēśvara temple at Drākshārāmam¹ clearly shows that Annadēva had not only returned to his native country before July 1404 A.D., but had managed to regain the power which he had lost some years earlier.² As Drākshārāmam is in the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry which at this time served the Reddis as the capital of their northern possessions, it is impossible that Annadēva could have gained a footing in this region without coming into conflict with them, specially with Kāṭaya-Vēma, who was then ruling over this part of the Reddi kingdom.³ The absence of Kāṭaya-Vēma's inscriptions during the early years of his reign (A.D. 1404-07) in Rajahmundry and its neighbourhood seems to suggest that very probably he had temporarily lost control over his capital immediately after the death of his brother-in-law and sovereign, Kumāragiri-Reddi in A.D. 1403 though he appears to have recaptured it before A.D. 1408.⁴ The titles, 'Rājādhirāja,' and 'Pūrvasimhāsanaudhīśvara' which Annadēva assumed about this time⁵ were probably meant to proclaim his own sovereignty and the triumph which he won over his Reddi adversaries. The circumstances which facilitated Annadēva's return from Gulburga, and the re-establishment of his authority in the Gōdāvarī delta must be explained here, in order to present the facts enumerated in the inscription under consideration in their true perspective. Anavēma died probably in A.D. 1381 and his nephew Kumāragiri-Reddi succeeded him on the throne of Koṇḍavīḍu. Kumāragiri's accession was not, however, peaceful and uncontested. The Tottaramūḍi plates which declare that his brother-in-law, the powerful Kāṭaya-Vēma placed him on the throne and protected him even as Śrīkṛishṇa protected Yudhisṭhira, allude covertly to some opposition which Kāṭaya-Vēma had to overcome before he placed Kumāragiri on the throne, and to the sovereign powers which he exercised on his behalf after his accession. It is evident that Kumāragiri left the onerous task of governing the kingdom to his powerful brother-in-law, and contented

¹ S. I. I., Vol. IV, 1347.

² My reasons for thinking so are: (1) No trace of him is found before this date in the region of the Gōdāvarī; (2) Anavēma and Kumāragiri-Reddi were in actual possession of this region from A.D. 1371 to 1403; and (3) the Velama king Peḍa-Vēdagiri is said to have offered protection to Annadēva 'Ala-Chōḍa-Bhaktindru Annadēvarājunu bemp-āra-gāche' (The Velugōtivarī-vamśāvalī, p. 122).

The word *kāchu* implies some danger which threatened Annadēva; (4) Annadēva was, after all, a petty chief as yet unknown to fame. It is not likely that his greatness reached the Bahmani court and induced Fīrūz Shāh to court alliance with him. Judging in the light of these facts, it appears to me that Annadēva who was at Dēvara-konda joined the Velamas who were the friends of Fīrūz Shāh and helped the latter to take Sagar.

³ Mac. Mss., 15, 4, 4, p. 233.

⁴ J. A. H. R. S., Vol. XI, p. 213.

⁵ S. I. I., Vol. IV, 1347.

himself with the enjoyment of sensual pleasures.¹ When his only son, Prince Virānavōta, died a premature death some time after A.D. 1390, Kumāragiri, who was left without any heir except his distant cousins, resolved to reward his brother-in-law for the valuable services rendered by him. Therefore, he conferred on Kāṭaya-Vēma the eastern territories with Rajahmundry as its capital, and left the remaining part of the kingdom to one of his cousins who might be successful in seizing his throne. Accordingly, on his death, the Redḍi territories which had hitherto remained under the authority of a single monarch were divided into two kingdoms, practically hostile to each other. Peda-Kōmaṭi-Vēma, who succeeded him on the throne of Koṇḍaviḍu, did not naturally acquiesce in the division of the kingdom effected by Kumāragiri and was inclined to question the right of Kāṭaya-Vēma to rule at Rajahmundry.

Another factor which contributed to the removal of the obstacles from the path of Annadēva was the confusion that arose in the kingdom of Vijayanagara, consequent upon the illness which afflicted Harihara II in A.D. 1403. His three sons Bukka II, Virūpāksha I, and Dēvarāya I repaired from their respective provinces to the capital, and were each busy in concerting measures to seize the throne.² The death of Harihara II in A.D. 1404 was the signal for the outbreak of a civil war which racked the kingdom for two years. Kāṭaya-Vēma who expected help from Vijayanagara, owing to his political and family alliance with Harihara II, could hope for little or no assistance from his ally under the circumstances.³ It was at this juncture that Annadēva considered it expedient to return to his native country, and make an effort to recover his patrimony. There is reason to believe that his restoration was partly due to a Velama invasion of the Rajahmundry kingdom. Rāvu-Siṅga II, the ruler of Warangal and Rācbakoṇḍa, invaded, probably at the instance of Sultan Firūz Shāh Bahmanī, the Gōḍāvari delta and overran the country as far as the frontiers of Orissa.⁴ His cousin, Peda Vēdagiri, the chief of Dēvarakoṇḍa who formerly gave asylum to Annadēva, co-operated with him in the enterprise, and destroyed, according to the *Velugōṭivāri-vamśāvalī*, the fort of Beṇḍapūḍi (Tuni division of the East Godavari District) which belonged to Kāṭaya-Vēma.⁵ These statements are corroborated by the evidence of a few inscriptions of Peda-Vēdagiri's officers at Simhāchalam and Śrīkūrmam, both of which were included in the dominions of Kāṭaya-Vēma.⁶ One of these records registers the gift of 10 *gaṇḍa-māḍas* to the temple of Śrīkūrmam by Pina Māda-Nāyaḍu, son of Siṅgama-Nāyaḍu, a younger brother of Rēcherla Sūrā-Nāyaḍu of Dēvarakoṇḍa in A.D. 1405.⁷ The

¹ *Līlā-grihān=kanaka-ratna-chayair=anēkān prāsādam=unnala-sikhair=Grīharāja-samjñam* |

kriḍā-sarāmsi cha vidhāya Vasantārāyaḥ kēṭi-radhānasi (?) sak=āramata priyābhīḥ || The Komaragiri-varam Grant (J. A. H. R. S., Vol. XI, pp. 209-10).

² *Local Records*, XXII, p. 166.

³ The marriage between Kāṭaya-Vēma's son, Kāṭa-Prabhu, and Harihara's daughter is mentioned in the Vēma-varam grant (above, Vol. XIII, p. 242).

⁴ *Sōm (Snēh ?)=tillāśini Pāraśika-nripatau sandh-ānu-sāmdhāya(na ?)kaiḥ*

kanyāratna-samarpaṇāt Gajapatau sambandha-gandhaspriśi |

Rēcherl-ānvaya-śāringinam narapatim drashtum raṇē sāhasam

sambhāvyam sa (na ?) hi Gautamī-parisara-kshudra-kshamābhīd-gaṇē ||

(Viśvēśvara, *Chamatkāra-chandrikā*—Madras Government Or. Mss. Lib., R. No. 2679, p. 114).

⁵ See Introduction to Kāṭaya-Vēma's Commentary on Kālidāsa's *Śākuntalam*.

⁶ Kāṭaya-Vēma conquered the country between Simhāchalam and the Vindhya between A.D. 1385 and 1390. This is brought out by the following passage in the Anaparti grant :

Tasmāt=Simhādri-paryanta-prācya ēva mahīśvarāḥ |

Jēlavās-tan=mahīpālān=adhunā jaya-līlayā ||

Tatō Vindhyaḍri-Simhādri-madhyavarti-mahīśvarān |

Jitvā tad-dēśa-durgēshu niyujya sv-ādhipāriṇaḥ || J. A. H. R. S., Vol. XI, p. 204 (vv. 27 and 35).

⁷ S. I. I., Vol. V, No. 1242.

identity of the Sūrā-Nāyaḍu mentioned in this record is disclosed by another at Simbāchalam dated A.D. 1407.¹ He was the Pradhāni or the Minister of (Peda) Vēdagiri-Nāyaḍu of Dēvarakoṇḍa. It follows from this that the Velamas who invaded the kingdom of Rajahmundry about A.D. 1404 remained in the eastern districts for three or four years. As Annadēva was a *protégé* of Peda-Vēdagiri, and as the Velama invasion roughly coincided with Annadēva's return to his native country, it seems reasonable to conclude that the Velama invasion was undertaken to reinstate the latter in his ancestral estates.

What happened in the Gōḍāvarī delta in the years that immediately followed Annadēva's return is not known. A study of the Redḍi inscriptions of this period, however, leads to the conclusion that the successors of Kumāragiri had completely lost control over the coastal region between the Kṛishṇā and the Gōḍāvarī. Whereas the inscriptions of Kumāragiri are found in this region as in the other parts of the Redḍi kingdom, no inscription of his successors—neither of Pedakōmati-Vēma nor of Kāṭaya-Vēma,—has been so far discovered. The inscriptions of the early years of Kāṭaya-Vēma's reign are not found anywhere to the west of Pithāpuram and Peddāpuram; and none of Pedakōmati-Vēma is found on the north of the Kṛishṇā. A part of this region, if not the whole of it, probably passed into the hands of Annadēva.

Kāṭaya-Vēma was thus hemmed in between two enemies during these years. On the east were the Velamas in the neighbourhood of Simbāchalam, and on the west was Annadēva in the neighbourhood of his capital. Kāṭaya-Vēma must have been driven out of his capital and maintained a precarious hold on the Pithāpuram-*con*-Peddāpuram region, biding his time to dislodge his enemy. He perceived, at last, a chance of obtaining help from Vijayanagara. Dēvarāya I who emerged successfully out of a civil war ascended the throne in A.D. 1406; but he had to face a simultaneous attack delivered by two of his neighbours. Pedakōmati-Vēma who could not reconcile himself to the loss of the districts of Addanki and Śrīśailam despatched an expedition into the Udayagiri-rājya and occupied a large part of the present Cuddapah District.² At the same time, Firūz Shāh attacked Vijayanagara from the north.³ Dēvarāya, however, successfully withstood these attacks, and within the course of the next three or four years consolidated his position in the kingdom. It was at this time that Kāṭaya-Vēma set out for Vijayanagara and reached Ahōbālam in the Kurnool District about the end of A.D. 1410.⁴ It is not known whether he actually proceeded to Vijayanagara to solicit help from Dēvarāya. Taking into consideration the serious situation in which Kāṭaya-Vēma was involved, it is difficult to believe that his visit to Ahōbālam in the interior of the Vijayanagara kingdom was not actuated by political motives. The presence of the Vijayanagara armies on the banks of the Gōḍāvarī fighting against Annadēva during the succeeding years, as mentioned in the inscription under review, clearly shows that Vēma succeeded, whether he actually met Dēvarāya or not, in obtaining help.

Now this brief narrative of the political developments in the kingdom of Rajahmundry furnishes the clue for a clear understanding of the events mentioned in this inscription. Kāṭaya-Vēma seems to have abandoned the caution which characterised his early actions, some time after his return from Vijayanagara and embarked on a policy of aggression. Though he still maintained his hold on the eastern bank of the river, his enemy was in possession of the opposite bank.⁵ It was necessary that he should control both the banks of the river to ensure the safety

¹ *Ibid.*, Vol. VI, No. 1100.

² *Local Records*, Vol. XXII, p. 166.

³ Briggs: *Ferishta*, Vol. II, p. 383.

⁴ No. 84 of 1915 of the Madras Epigraphical collection.

⁵ Two epigraphs, one at Pōlavaram on the west bank of the Gōḍāvarī (No. 1293 of 1920 of the Madras Epigraphical collection) and another at Pālakōl in the Narsapur tāluk of the West Godavari District (*S. I. I.*, Vol. V, No. 145) dated A.D. 1408 and A.D. 1413 respectively show that Annadēva was the master of the western bank.

of his dominion, and free himself from the ever-present threat of attack. The conquest of the district of Attili (Taṇuku division, W. Godavari District) and the capture of that town and the fort by the southern kings referred to in the present inscription, point out clearly that Vēma launched an attack upon his enemy's territory.¹ The number and identity of the southern kings are not known, though it may be confidently asserted that the tributary princes and the nobles of Vijayanagara were certainly among them. Annadēva was not disposed to allow this affront to his authority to pass unavenged. Having quickly gathered together his friends and followers, he marched at their head to chastise the invaders. He came upon the army of Kāṭaya-Vēma's southern allies in the vicinity of Attili, and inflicted on them a crushing defeat. A large body of the enemy's forces numbering 10,000 men who were stationed in the fort of Attili were compelled as a consequence of defeat to surrender to him.

While Annadēva was engaged in taking possession of the fort of Attili, one of his friends who is unfortunately not mentioned by name in the inscription, came into conflict with a contingent of the Vijayanagara (*Kannāḍa*) army at Kāṅkaraparti on the Gautamī (i.e. the Gōḍāvarī). Confronted with a superior force, he was unable to cope with the situation, and stood in grave peril of destruction. Intelligence of the sad plight of his friend having reached Annadēva, he hastened with his troops to rescue his friend. As soon as he arrived at Kāṅkaraparti, he lost no time in engaging himself in action. Led by his brother-in-law, Pina-Uṇḍirāja, his army fell upon the Kārṇāṭakas and hacked them to pieces. It was an overwhelming disaster to Kāṭaya-Vēma's side, his allies were nearly annihilated and his family had to surrender to his enemy, abjectly begging him to spare their lives.

Two points demand explanation here. (a) It is said that Annadēva rescued some friend who was assailed by the Kārṇāṭakas at Kāṅkaraparti. The inscription gives no help to establish his identity. A passage from *Burhān-i-Ma'āsir*, however, seems to throw some light on the problem. Describing the events during the last years of Firūz Shāh Bahmanī, Sayyid 'Ali states that the Sultan led an army into Telingāna and subjugated the country as far as Rajahmundry.

"The Sultan", says he, "being determined to conquer Telingāna proceeded in that direction till having got near Rajahmundry he conquered many forts and districts of that country, and having taken the whole of that territory he consigned it to the agents of government, and then set out for his capital".² Sayyid 'Ali does not give the date of this expedition; but he mentions a number of events which had taken place before and after the dispatch of the expedition. However, a comparison with Ferishta's account of these events, may enable us to determine

¹ Though the identity of the southern kings is not disclosed in the inscription, it is not difficult to conjecture who they were. In the south, more strictly south-west, of Annadēva's dominions were the kingdoms of Koṇḍaviḍu and Vijayanagara. It is not likely that they should have joined together to attack Annadēva; for, in the first place, the relations between Koṇḍaviḍu and Vijayanagara were anything but friendly at this time; and secondly Pedakōmaṭi-Vēma, the king of Koṇḍaviḍu, who was hostile to Kāṭaya-Vēma would not have helped him or his family by making an attack upon Annadēva. The king of Vijayanagara was related to Kāṭaya-Vēma, as pointed out already, by marriage alliance. At Sagar the former encountered at first Annadēva as an ally of the Bahmanī Sultan; and then according to the present record he was fighting with the latter at Kāṅkaraparti on the Gōḍāvarī as an opponent. Moreover, according to Śrinātha's *Bhīmēśvara-purāṇam*, I : 62 (above Vol. XIII, p. 241), the king of Kārṇāṭa was an ally of Allāḍa who restored Kāṭaya-Vēma's children to their kingdom. Taking into consideration all these facts, it is not unreasonable to suppose that one of the southern kings referred to in the present record was the king of Kārṇāṭaka and that he came there with his forces to help Kāṭaya-Vēma and his family.

² *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 187.

roughly the time when the expedition was undertaken. The facts mentioned by both the historians are given in the following schedule, for the purposes of comparison :

Sayyid 'Ali

- (1) Fīrūz Shāh's second war with Vijayanagara ; and his capture of Bhānūr and Musalkal.

Firishta.

Nil.

- (2) One year after this, he invaded Māhūr and made peace with the Rāya.

The Sultan invaded Gondvana i.e. Māhūr in 815 A.H.

- (3) Hushyār and Bēdār rose to prominence

Nil.

- (4) Death of Khwāja-i-Jahān, the prime minister of the Sultan

Nil.

- (5) The invasion of Telingāna as far as Rajahmundry, and the conquest of the country

Nil.

- (6) The siege of Pāngal

The siege of Nalkonḍa-Pāngal in 820 A.H.

It is obvious that Fīrūz Shāh's expedition to Rajahmundry took place between 815 A.H. and 820 A.H.

Another fact which seems to have some bearing on the subject must be taken into consideration here. Notwithstanding the uniform success which attended his arms, and the comparative ease with which he subjugated the country, Fīrūz Shāh is said to have returned to his capital without making an attempt to capture Rajahmundry, although he marched victoriously to the neighbourhood of the city. The reason for his failure to take advantage of the opportunity to capture the city is not quite apparent. Rajahmundry was an important stronghold in the lower valley of the Gōdāvarī, and it was the seat of a flourishing Hindu kingdom. The temptation to plunder the city, if not actually to take possession of it, must have been too strong for an orthodox and ambitious Muhammadan king like Fīrūz Shāh to overcome. Therefore, the return of the Sultan without even making an attempt to invest the city must be attributed to some obstacle which compelled him to turn back and hasten homewards.

A few incidental remarks thrown out by the Muslim historians, while describing the siege of Pāngal-Nalkonḍa by Fīrūz Shāh in the middle of 820 A. H. (August. A.D. 1417), seem to suggest that the Sultan was compelled to return by the arrival of a fresh Vijayanagara army in the east. Firishta states that in the middle of the year 820 A. H., the Sultan made an attack on Pāngal commonly known as Nalkonḍa in his day, a fort which stood at a distance of eighty farsangs or two hundred and forty miles from Ādōni on the banks of the Tuṅgabhadra.¹ The authenticity

¹ Briggs' *Firishta*, Vol. II, pp. 389-90. There are two forts named Pāngal in Telingāna. One of them stands, at a distance of about seventy miles to the east of Ādōni, in the Mahbubnagar District of Hyderabad State. This could not have been the Pāngal besieged by Fīrūz Shāh, as the distance between this fort and Ādōni is seventy miles and not two hundred and forty as stated by Firishta.

There is another Pāngal, adjoining the town of Nalkonḍa, the headquarters of the District of the same name in Hyderabad. In fact, Pāngal and Nalkonḍa are so near each other that they may be regarded as two different suburbs, as it were, of the same town. Moreover, the distance between this fort and Ādōni roughly agrees with that given by Firishta.

The name Bilkonḍa which is found both in Briggs' translation and the published Persian text (Naval Kishore Press) of Firishta is a corruption of Nalkonḍa, due to a scribal error commonly met with in Persian mss., lithographs, etc. Some scribe, either due to negligence or ignorance, shifted the dot indicating the phonetic value of the initial letter 'noon' (ن) from the top to the bottom, and changed it into 'be' (ب). Consequently,

Nalkonḍa (نلكونڈہ) was transformed into Bilkonḍa (بلكونڈہ). In one of the mss. in the library of the Royal

Asiatic Society of Bengal the name of the fort is spelt as Malkonḍa :—

در اواسط سال مذکور فاضل نسیمیر نالگل کہ درین وقت بہ ملکونڈہ شہرت دارد از قلعہ ادونی تانجا ہشتاد فرسنگ است شدہ بانصوب لشکر گسید -

of Firishta's account is corroborated by the evidence of two inscriptions both dated July, A.D. 1417, at Vēdātri in the Nandigama taluk of the Kistna District. They refer to the occupation of Vōḍapalli-Vazirābād and Śrīraṅgarājukoṇḍa (Vēdātri) on the banks of the Kṛishṇā in the eastern country by Sarakhu Maluka Jainādi Voḍaya (Sharq? Malik Ziān-ud-dīn), an younger brother of Mas'ad-i-¹ Aly Habib Nizām-ul-Mulk, one of the favourite ministers of Sultan Firūz Shāh. As Vōḍapalli-Vazirābād, where Malik Ziān-ud-dīn was ruling in A.D. 1417, is situated at the junction of the Musi with the Kṛishṇā at a distance of about thirty miles in the south-east of Pāngal-Nalkoṇḍa, there is no scope for any doubt about the identity of the fort invested by the Sultan. The causes of this attack are not fully explained by the Muslim historians. From Firishta's account it would appear that it was an act of unprovoked aggression. "Without regarding his relationship to the Rāy of Beejanuggur", says he, "he marched and commenced the siege, which extended to two whole years."² Sayyid 'Ali asserts, on the contrary, that the Sultan was compelled to march against Vijayanagara, though he does not mention the circumstances which rendered the invasion obligatory.³ Khāfi Khān, however, states that Firūz Shāh's march upon Pāngal-Nalkoṇḍa was due to an invasion of his territories by the king of Vijayanagara. "At this time (i.e. after 818 A. H.)", says he, "the intelligence of the advance of Rāy of Bījānagar with numerous forces on the territories of Islam arrived. Sultan Firūz Shāh having gathered his troops marched in that direction personally to oppose him with the army and the materials of war."⁴ If the evidence of Sayyid 'Ali and Khāfi Khān could be relied upon, Firūz Shāh appears to have marched to the eastern Telingāṇa to ward off an attack of the king of Vijayanagara on his dominions in that region. Firūz Shāh was an ally, and, according to the Muhammadan historians, the overlord, of the Velamas whose territory extended from Dēvarakoṇḍa and Rāju-koṇḍa in the south to the Gōḍāvarī in the north. Though this region did not properly form part of the Sultan's kingdom, it may be termed the territory of Islam (*bilād-i-Islām*), as its rulers, the Velamas, paid tribute and owed probably allegiance to him. It is not known when the fort of Pāngal-Nalkoṇḍa, which stands close to their principal capital Rāju-koṇḍa, fell into the hands of the king of Vijayanagara. Probably Dēvarāya I seized it in the absence of the Velama forces, when they accompanied the Sultan during his expedition to the Gōḍāvarī valley. The reduction of this fort, and the consequent submission of the dependent territory must have brought under the control of Dēvarāya an important strategic position which commanded the route along which his armies had to pass on their way to the east coast. If, on the other hand, the fort of Pāngal-Nalkoṇḍa had been in the possession of the king of Vijayanagara even earlier, the Babmanī territory which he invaded at this time must have extended further eastwards into the coastal region which was recently conquered by the Sultan. In any case, the Vijayanagara attack on the possessions of Firūz Shāh in the east must have threatened the Sultan's rear, and compelled him to retreat from the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry abandoning his designs of further conquest.

However, the date of this invasion is not known. Khāfi Khān places it sometime after 818 A. H. (A.D. 1415-16).⁵ As the Vijayanagara invasion immediately preceded Firūz Shāh's

¹ Nos. 306 and 307 of 1924 of the Madras Epigraphical collection. Sayyid 'Ali gives a brief account of Nizām-ul-Mulk and his colleague and friend 'Ain-ul-Mulk in the *Burhān-i-Ma'aṣir*.

² At this time (about 815 A. H.) two slaves named Hushyār and Bēdār who, by royal favours and rank, were distinguished above all courtiers, had various dignities conferred on them, and most of the important affairs of government and army were conducted according to their judgment and opinion. Bēdār was given the title of Nizām-ul-Mulk, and Hushyār that of 'Ain-ul-Mulk'. (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXVIII., p. 187).

³ Briggs' *Firishta*, Vol. II, p. 390.

⁴ *Burhān-i-Ma'aṣir* (*Ind. Ant.* Vol. XXVIII, p. 188).

⁵ *Muntakhab-ul-Lubab* (Bib. Ind.), iii, p. 63.

دریں آراء خبر حرکت رائے بیجانگر بالشکر بے کران طرف بلاد اسلام رسید - سلطان فیروز شاہ
مقابل اولشکر کشیدہ خود را مع فوج و مصالح معاہدہ بہ ان * سمت رسانید -

⁶ *Muntakhab-ul-Lubab* (Bib. Ind.), iii, pp. 62-3.

attack on Pāngal-Nalkonḍa in 820 A. H., it seems to have taken place probably in the previous year. Sayyid 'Alī, it may be remembered, describes Firūz Shāh's invasion of Telingāṇa immediately before his attack on Pāngal-Nalkonḍa, suggesting thereby that one preceded the other. Taking all these facts into consideration it seems reasonable to assign Firūz Shāh's expedition against the kingdom of Rajahmundry to the year 819 A. H. (1416-17 A.D.).¹ Now, this appears to be the time when Annadēva was waging war on Kāṭaya-Vēma and his allies in the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry.² As Firūz Shāh was an old friend and ally of Annadēva, it is not unlikely that he came to assist the latter at his invitation. Since Firūz Shāh is said to have got near Rajahmundry and turned back without proceeding against the city, he was probably 'the friend' whom Annadēva rescued from the Kaṇṇākaṣ on the battlefield of Kāmikaṇṇaparti.

(b) The other problem which stands in need of elucidation is the manner of Kāṭaya-Vēma's disappearance from the scene of his activities. Nothing is said about him in the present inscription though it speaks of the surrender of his family to Annadēva. It is certain that Vēma did not fall into the hands of Annadēva. Neither is it likely that he perished in a battle with Annadēva, nor being defeated by him could have taken to flight leaving his family at the tender mercies of his enemy; for, in either case, Annadēva would not have failed to include these facts in the list of his achievements given in the present charter. Therefore, the only reasonable alternative is to assume that Kāṭaya-Vēma died elsewhere under circumstances which are not known at present. Though nothing can be said definitely about the manner of his death, it is certain that the event itself had taken place between March and August 1416 A.D.; for, in the first place, he was still ruling at Rajahmundry according to an epigraph at Drākshārāmam dated March A.D. 1416. But another epigraph at Palivela dated in the month of January A.D. 1417 alludes to his death and the destruction of Kāṭaya-Vēma's enemy, evidently Annadēva, at the hands of Allāḍa;⁴ and a third epigraph dated August A.D. 1416 refers to the establishment of the power of Allāḍa in the kingdom.⁵ It follows from this that Kāṭaya-Vēma's death took place between March and August A.D. 1416. As Firūz Shāh led his troops as far as Rajahmundry in A.D. 1416, it is not unreasonable to believe that Vēma might have perished in the invasion while attempting to check the advance of the Muslim army.⁶

¹ Sayyid 'Alī places Firūz Shāh's expedition to Rajahmundry before his attack on Pāngal (Nalkonḍa). Firishta assigns the commencement of the siege of Pāngal-Nalkonḍa to 820 A. H. Khāfi Khān places the Vijayanagara invasion of Bahmani dominions in the east (which in my opinion compelled Firūz Shāh to retreat from the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry) sometime after 818 A. H.

Assuming that the position taken up by me is correct, Firūz Shāh must have been in the neighbourhood of Rajahmundry at the time of the Vijayanagara invasion. If the Vijayanagara invasion took place after 818 A.H. and the siege of Pāngal-Nalkonḍa commenced in 820 A. H., Firūz Shāh's Rajahmundry expedition which, as I understand the situation, took place between these two dates, may be reasonably assigned to 819 A. H.

² Kāṭaya-Vēma was in Ahōbalaṃ at the end of A.D. 1410. Hostilities between him and Annadēva must have commenced sometime after his return to his capital; it is not possible to determine the exact duration which elapsed between Vēma's return and the commencement of hostilities.

³ Above, Vol. IV, p. 330.

⁴ S. I. I., Vol. V., No. 113; see note 2 on p. 29 above.

⁵ *Ibid.*, No. 133.

⁶ Tradition preserved in the family records and the *prastāvi* of the Koppunūḷla chiefs (*Maṣk. Mss.* 15, 4, 3, pp. 112-13) alludes to a battle in which a scion of the family, called Gajarow Tippa, defeated the army of Kāṭaya-Vēma at Guṇḍukolanu, a village in the Ellore taluk of West Godavari District. Moreover, the family *prastāvi* embodies a *biruda*, viz., *Kāṭaya-Vēmuṇi-tala-gonḍa-gundu* (the hero who took the head of Kāṭaya-Vēma) which points to Vēma's death at the hands of Gajarow Tippa or some other member of his family, probably at Guṇḍukolanu itself. If this tradition could be relied upon, Vēma appears to have died in a battle with the Velamas, to which community the Koppunūḷla family belonged. Taking into consideration the time of Vēma's death as well as the friendly relations that subsisted between the Velamas and Firūz Shah, the Koppunūḷla chiefs seem to have accompanied Firūz Shāh's army during the Telingāṇa invasion and killed Vēma at Guṇḍukolanu. In that case, the engagement at Guṇḍukolanu must have preceded that of Attili.

4. Besides the achievements of Annadēva and his father enumerated above, the plates under edition give also an account of their **religious beliefs** and pious benefactions. Annadēva and his father were both staunch Śaivas. Though the latter was originally named Kāmarāja by his parents, he acquired, on account of his excessive devotion (*bhakti*) to the god Śiva, the sobriquet Bhaktirāja, by which he was commonly known to his contemporaries (III, l. 8). Kāmapurī, his capital, appears to have been a strong Śaiva centre. The allusion to the sound of the bells echoing in the streets of the city from early dawn onwards suggests that the inhabitants were given more or less exclusively to the worship of the god of the place who was Śiva (III, ll. 18-19). Though the present charter does not mention any of Bhaktirāja's deeds of charity, information gleaned from other sources represents him as a patron of Śaiva divines and institutions. The Madras Museum Plates register his gift of the village of Kaṇḍavakolanu, probably identical with Kaḍavakolanu a small station on the M. S. M., N. E. line in the Guntur District, to the great ascetic Viśvēśvara or Viśvanātha of Śrīparvata.¹ And the Telugu poet Śrinātha speaks of his grant of two villages Cheruvāḍa and Ātukūru to the shrine of god Mallikārjuna at Śrīśaila.²

Annadēva seems to have inherited his love of the Śaiva creed from his father. He was a *Paramamāhēśvara*³ and most of his inscriptions record his benefactions to Śaiva shrines. Annadēva was accustomed to offer worship to Śiva six times a day, beginning with sun-rise (IV, l. 40); he added a *gōpura* of seven storeys (*sāpta-bhauma*) to the temple of Śiva probably at Mummaḍi-Prōlavaram (IV, ll. 43-44); gilded the temple of Virabhadra at Paṭṭesa and the *vimāna* of the shrine of Bhīmēśvara at Drākshārāma (IV, ll. 50-52); and granted several villages to god Viśvēśvara of Kāśī, the deity of his family.

Though Annadēva was an ardent devotee of Śiva, he was not a follower of the fanatical Vira-Śaiva sect which gained the enthusiastic support of a large number of people in his time. He was, as evidenced by the term *Paramamāhēśvara*, a member of the Pāśupata community⁴, the members of which notwithstanding their bias to Śiva, did not approve of the Vira-Śaiva tenets denouncing the Vēdas and the social system based on them. That accounts for the praise bestowed upon such deities as Vāṇī and Hari in the opening verses of this charter, and the liberal munificence of Annadēva to Brāhmans. Annadēva, in observance of a vow, as it were, fed daily a large number of Brāhmans—Śaiva as well as non-Śaiva, ascetics and *yōgins* (IV, ll. 40-41; ll. 45-46). He gave also to Brāhmans a thousand cows in the vicinity of the temple of Virabhadra at Paṭṭesa on the bank of the Gautamī, and supplemented it with the gifts, *Saptasāgara* and *Hiraṇya-mēru* (IV, ll. 47-49).⁵ In addition to these, he granted them two villages, **Uttama-gaṇḍa—Chōḍ-Annadēvavaram** in the district of Viṣiṇi situated at the junction of the Pinnasāni and the Gaṇḍā, and **Annadēvavaram** on the bank of the Gaṇḍā to the west of Pallūri-Śailavaram. These benefactions show that Annadēva's deeds of charity to temples and Brāhmans were as numerous as his victories on the field of battle.

¹ J. O. R., Vol. V, p. 142.

² Śivarātri-māhātmyamu, 1: 16.

³ S. I. I., Vol. IV, 1347.

⁴ See Bhandarkar: *Vaiṣṇavism, Śaivism, etc.*, p. 119. [The title *Paramamāhēśvara* would only show that he was a Śaiva, and not necessarily of the Pāśupata sect.—Ed.]

⁵ The *Saptasāgara* is the fourteenth *mahādāna* in the list of the sixteen *mahādānas* described by Hēmadri. The ritual connected with the performance of this *dāna* may be briefly described thus: Brāhmans must be invited on an auspicious day and requested to perform the *punya-havāchana* or purificatory ceremony. In a *mandapa* which is specially erected for the purpose, the images of some deities must be installed on a *vēdi* or platform. This must be followed by the performance of *vriddhīśrāddha*, or the *śrāddha* for ensuring prosperity.

5. *Annadēva's family* : Bhaktirāja had, as stated in an earlier context, two sons, Annadēva and Bhīma-Liṅga. The latter married a daughter of king Annavēma, and got by her a daughter called Vēmāmbā : and she espoused Allāḍa and gave birth to four sons, Vēma, Virabhadra, Doḍḍa and Anna.

Annadēva married Irugāmbikā, the daughter of Chakravarti of the Solar race, and a sister of Pina-Uṇḍirāja who helped him to win the victory over the Kaiṇāṭakas at Kāmkaṇapartī (III, l. 28, IV, ll. 29, 33-34). Pina-Uṇḍirāja and his father Chakravarti were probably related to Peda-Uṇḍirāja of the Solar race who granted the village of Rāvulapartī to Brāhmins in Śāka 1304¹, though the exact connection between the two families is not definitely known. Annadēva had by Irugāmbā, a son called Virabhadra (IV, l. 30). Though no information is furnished by the present Plates about Virabhadra's activities, a line in Śrīnātha's *Bhīmēśvara-purāṇam* suggests that he helped his father in fighting against his enemies and was consequently slain by Allāḍa.²

6. The date on which the Rajahmundry Museum Plates were issued is not known, owing to the loss of some plates belonging to the set. Nevertheless it is not impossible to discover the probable date when the gift was made. As the inscription describes the submission of Vēma's family to Annadēva, the gift must have been made after the occurrence of this event. We have already stated that Kāṭaya-Vēma died about the middle of A.D. 1416, and that his family submitted to Annadēva about the end of the same year. Now it is stated in an epigraph at Palivela dated 17th January A.D. 1417 that Doḍḍaya Allā, after the death of Kāṭaya-Vēma, destroyed 'the family of the latter's enemy' completely.³ The enemy referred to in this inscription, as pointed by Mr. V. Apparao in his article on the Rajahmundry Plates, was Annadēva.⁴ The defeat, if not the destruction, of Annadēva and his son Virabhadra is alluded to by the poet Śrīnātha in the introduction to his *Bhīmēśvara-purāṇam*.⁵ It follows from this that Annadēva did not long survive his victory. Therefore, the Rajahmundry Plates which he issued after Kāṭaya-Vēma's death must be assigned to the end of A.D. 1416.

Seven golden *kuṇḍas* (vessels) 21"×21" or 10"×10" in dimensions (height and width) and weighing from 7 to 1,000 *palas*, according to the means of the donor, must be secured. They should be placed first on sesamum and then on the skin of an antelope. Next, each of the seven pots should be filled with salt, milk, ghee, molasses, curds, sugar and water respectively to symbolise the seven oceans of the Hindu mythology : and the images in gold respectively of Brahman, Viṣṇu, Śiva, Sūrya, Indra, Lakṣmī and Pārvatī, and gems and grains of different varieties must be added to them. Twenty-five Brāhmins (8 *Ṛitviks*, 8 *dvārapālakas*, 8 *japa-Brāhmanas* and 1 *guru*) have to be engaged, and *hōmas* for all the gods installed in the *maṇḍapa* must be performed. When the *hōma* for Varuṇa is completed, the *yajamāna* has to bathe and go around the *vēdi* three times chanting the *mantras*. On the second day the *hōma* has to be performed a thousand times : and finally the *kuṇḍas* must be given away as a gift to the Brāhmins. (Hemādri, *Chaturvarṇa-chintāmani*, *Dānakhaṇḍa* (Bibl. Ind.), Ch. 5, pp. 337-339).

The *Suvarṇamēru* comes under *Mērudānuṣ*. The representation of the Mēru mountain can be made in any kind of metal or grain. In case it is made of grain, it is called the *Dhānya-Mēru*. If it is *suvarṇa* or gold the representation must have three ridges weighing three *palas*. When the representation of the Mēru is ready, worship is offered to it in the prescribed manner. And then on occasions like eclipses, it is presented as a gift to a Brāhman invited for the purpose. This *dāna* is given to propitiate the god Varāha, (Hemādri, *op. cit.*, pp. 391-92.)

¹ *Madras Ep. Rep.*, 1918, Part ii. p. 173.

² *Bhīmēśvara-purāṇam*, 1 : 62.

³ *S. I. I.*, Vol. V, No. 113.

⁴ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. I, p. 179.

⁵ *Bhīmēśvara-purāṇam*, 1 : 62.

7. The names of several territorial divisions, rivers, towns and villages are mentioned in this inscription.

I. Territorial divisions :—

(1) Attili-sīma ; (2) Visari-nāḍu.

II. Rivers :—

(1) The Gaṁgā, (2) the Gautamī, (3) the Pinnaśāni.

III. Towns :—

(1) Attili, (2) Jaggavāga, (3) Kāmapurī, (4) Kāśī, (5) Mummaḍi-Prōlavāra, (6) Sagara, (7) Sūravaraṭṭaṇa.

IV. Villages :—

(1) Bharanipāḍu, (2) Chōḍ-Ānnadēvavara, (3) Drākshārāma, (4) Gulapūṁḍi, (5) Kāmkaṛa-parti, (6) Pallūri-Śailavara, (7) Pañchadhāra, (8) Paṭṭesa, (9) Pedakoṇḍa.

In addition to these, the name of a hill called the Gōmukhagiri with a temple dedicated to Gōmukhagiriśvara, evidently named after the hill on which the shrine was built, is also mentioned.

Some of these towns and villages have been already identified in the course of the preceding discussion. The rest are taken up here for consideration.

Attili-sīma was so called after Attili, which was evidently the headquarters of the district. Attili is at present situated in the south-west of the Tanuku taluk of the West Godavari District. It stands at the junction of two roads on a canal named after it. The boundaries of the Attili-sīma are not known ; and it is not possible, in the absence of the necessary data, to demarcate even roughly the area included in the district.

The situation of **Visari-nāḍu** is not so easily ascertained. Visari-nāḍu figures in an epigraph belonging to the middle of the 13th century among the countries conquered by Ēruva-Bhīma, one of Annadēva's ancestors.¹ As Annadēvavaram, the object of the present grant included in this district, is said to have been situated at the junction of the Pinnaśāni and the Gaṁgā (another well-known name of the Gōdāvari), it is certain that Visari-nāḍu extended along the bank of the Gōdāvari ; and as no tributary of the Gōdāvari is known at present by the name of the Pinnaśāni, and as no village of Chōḍ-Ānnadēvavaram or Annadēvavaram can be located on the bank of the river, the position of Visari-nāḍu cannot be defined exactly at present.

Of the **rivers** mentioned in the plates, **Gaṁgā**, as explained already, is another name by which the Gōdāvari is frequently referred to in inscriptions as well as in literature. The poet Śrīnātha who was a contemporary of Annadēva states that the river Gaṁgā flowed touching the western wall of the city of Rajahmundry.² The **Gautamī** is also another well-known name of the Gōdāvari. As Paṭṭesa, famous for its shrine of Virabhadra, is said to be on the bank of the river, it should be identified with the Akhaṇḍa-Gautamī, i.e., the Gautamī before it divides itself into the seven branches known collectively by the name of Sapta-Gōdāvaram. The identity of the Pinnaśāni, which must have been a small stream flowing into the Gōdāvari, is, as stated already, not known.

8. Of the **towns** mentioned in the record, **Attili**, **Kāmapurī**, **Sagara** and **Sūravaram** have been identified already. Nothing is known about Jaggavāga ; Kāśī is, of course, the famous city of Benares. The situation of Mummaḍi-Prōlavāra of which a glowing account is given in the present inscription cannot be ascertained definitely. Mr. V. Apparao identifies it with 'Mura-maṇḍa-Pōlavaram (probably the same as Murumaṇḍa in the Rajahmundry taluk of the East Godavari District)'.³

¹ No. 308 of 1935-36 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection ; *Bhārati*, Vol. XV, p. 158.

² *Kāśīkhaṇḍam*, I : 58.

³ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. I, p. 181.

9. Of the villages mentioned in the charter **Gulapūṇḍi**, **Pañchadhāra** and **Pedakoṇḍa** have already been taken into consideration. Some of the remaining villages can be easily identified. **Drākshārāma** which is celebrated for its famous Śiva temple is still a place of some importance. It stands on the north bank of the Injaram canal in the Ramachandrapuram taluk of the East Godavari District. **Kāmkaraparti** is identical with the modern village of Kākaraparru, on the west bank of the Gōdāvari. It is at present included in the Tanuku taluk of the West Godavari District. **Paṭṭesam** stands on a picturesque island in the Gōdāvari and is at present included in the Rajahmundry taluk. On a craggy hill, which was known in the days of Annadēva as the Gōmukhagiri, are the temples of Gōmukhagiriśvara and Virabhadra, whither large numbers of pilgrims still flock to attend the annual festival in the month of February.

The situation of the remaining three villages is not known. No village bearing the name of Bharanipāḍu seems to be in existence at present. There is, however, a village of the name of Bharinikam in the Anakapalle taluk of the Vizagapattam District. As Bhaktirāja was active in this region fighting with the Gajapati at Pañchadhāra, it is not impossible that Bharanipāḍu where he defeated king Singa should have been identical with Bharinikam.

While engaged in editing these plates, I received considerable assistance from several scholars. Mr. Bhavaraju V. Krishnarao kindly furnished me, at my request, with a set of impressions of these plates, taken afresh from the originals in the Rajahmundry Museum. The Epigraphist to the Government of India secured from the same scholar, for my use, the impressions of the Anaparti plates of Kumārāgiri-Redḍi which are in his possession. Mr. C. R. Krishnamacharlu, Superintendent for Epigraphy (Madras), checked my transcript and helped me to determine the correct reading of the text in certain places. Mr. M. Ramakrishna Kavi and Dr. V. Raghavan rendered invaluable help in the correction and interpretation of the text. Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri and Messrs. A. S. Ramanatha Ayyar and N. Lakshminarayan Rao revised the manuscripts of the introductory portion of this article and offered me several useful suggestions. I am grateful to these scholars and offer them my heart-felt thanks for their generous and ungrudging help.

TEXT.

First Plate.

- 1 श्रीहजारवन्निखिळ¹वाग्विभवस्य सृष्टेराद्या शरत्तुहिनदीधितचंद्रिकाभा [1*] सर्वेश्वरादिसक-
कासरवं-
- 2 दनिय्या² वाणी वराभयकरा भवतात् प्रसं(स)न्ना ॥ 1[11*] सा भारती निखिळवेद-
पुराणरूपवाग्वादिनी क-
- 3 मळसंभवमुख्यवंद्या [1*] हंसावदातवपुरागममौळिमृग्या चिन्मात्रमूर्तिरवतादखिळ-
- 4 प्रपंचं(चम्) । [1211*] आनंदमूर्तिरखिळांतरमार्गवृत्तिरंभोरुहैकवनसंचरणोत्संती ।
आस्वादितेंदुवि-
- 5 गळन्धुरासुतार्द्रा सा योगिवंद्यविभवा भवतात् प्रसं(स)न्ना 1[1*] 3[11*] दंताग्रकोटि-
दरदष्टधराधरस्य यस्यां³

¹ Regarding the use of *la* for *la* attention is drawn to the remarks on orthography on p. 14. As such use is too frequent in the text no correction is made.

² Read 'वन्दनीया.

³ The *anuvāra* is written in the next line.

- 6 गके निखिलवारिधयः प्रहृष्टाः¹ । खेदांनुविंदुवदुदंचितसत्त्व(स्व)हृत्तेरामात्सवी क्षिरितनुईरि-
 7 रस्तु भूत्यै ॥4²1[*] यस्य चिलोकजननी जननी भवानी यस्यश्चरः³ निजजनतां
 जनको गिरीशः 1[*] यस्य स्मृतिर्निखिल[वि]-
 8 स्रतमोविवस्वान् सोयं करीद्रवदनो जयतात्कमारः 1[*] 51[*] हेमाद्रि⁴गर्भविपु-
 लैकपुरोपकंठप्रा-
 9 कारभूतमहितावधिपर्वताये । विश्वं प्रबोधयितुमुच्चलितो⁵ प्रदीपौ देवाग्रयिव जयता-
 10 मिह पुष्पवंती 1[*] 6 1[*] यां [सं]स्तुवन्ति(ति) गिरिजां प्रकृतिं च मायां लक्ष्मीं
 गिरं सकलसृष्टिनिदानरूपां(पाम्) । इ-
 11 गौ प्रचुड⁶महिषासुरमर्दनौ सा भर्गेकष्ट विभवा भवतात्सक्ता 1[*]71[*] क्रीड-
 न्मुदा श्रुति⁷पुटांचिततिग्म-
 12 भानुखडावतंसपदलंभितचंद्रविंबः । उद्दामशृंगरवपूरितपद्मजाडः चेचेच्छरो दिशतु स-
 13 र्वशुभानि नित्यं(त्यम्) 1[*] 21 1[*] गंगातरंगतनुश्रीकरतारकात्ति(भिः) संसिध्यमानहिम-
 रश्मिकक(का)किरीटं(टम्) । चर्द्दंगकांतम-
 14 हिमादिगुणोत्तंसंतमाराधयामि मनसा शिवमष्टमूर्त्तिं(र्त्तिम्) 11911[*] चक्ष्माक्षितुः
 श्वशुरमंदिरप

Second Plate (lost).

Third Plate; First Side.

- 1 लामरकामिनीभिः । युद्धांगना(णे) निहतवीरवरो(र)स्व कांता विश्वोरिकाञ्चितज्याम-
 वदन्नेमांवा ॥
 2 जातस्तयोरभवदे०७वभीमभूपस्त्रैलोक्यगीतविमळात्मयशःप्रतापः 1[*] प्रोक्षांबिकाप-
 3 तिरनेकककाप्रवीणो भूलोककल्पतरुंरिंदुरिवाक्षिपेयः ॥ लक्ष्मीपत(ति)स्तदनु दाम-
 तृपालचं-
 4 द्रो जातस्तयोर्जगति विश्व(शु)तधर्ममूर्त्तिः । सूर्यांबिकापतिरभूदय सोमभूयः क्षीरांनुधे-
 5 रिव ततो जगतामुपास्यः 1[*] गंगाधरोजन(नि) तयोरिहमांबिकाभ्याः प्राक्षेच्छरः
 प्रथितमान-

¹ Read प्रहृष्टाः.

² The Telugu numeral figure 1 denoting the number of the plate, is inscribed just above the line.

³ Read यल्लेश्वरश्चिः.

⁴ Read हेमाद्रिः.

⁵ Read 'सुञ्जलितौ.

⁶ Read प्रचुड.

⁷ Read श्रुतिः.

⁸ The numeral 21 is wrongly introduced for 8 here.

i.

2 3 4 6 8 10 12 14

2 4 6 8 10 12 14

iii, a.

2 4 6 8 10 12 14

2 4 6 8 10 12 14

iii, b.

16 18 20 22 24 26 28

16 18 20 22 24 26 28

iv, a.

30
32
34
36
38
40
42

30
32
34
36
38
40
42

iv, b.

44
46
48
50
52
54
56

44
46
48
50
52
54
56

vii, a.

2
4
6
8
10
12
14

2
4
6
8
10
12
14

- 6 धनो नृपालः । साक्षाद्गिरीशमिव यं विबुधा[*] स्तुवंति धर्मकमूर्तिमरिगंडरगंड-
कीर्ति(र्तिम्) ।[*]
- 7 गंगाधरादिगुणमाविकया समेतास्त्रीभाग्यशौर्यमहितोजनि कामराजः । यश्चंद्र-
8 चूडचरणांबुहैकभक्त्या भक्तौश्वराह्वयमगाह्वर्षेषु पश्चात् ।[*] प्राति युवैव गु-
9 लपूडिपुरस्य शूरान् यो बोभारादियवनाधिपतीनजैषीत् । प्राच्यां च कोपुल-
पतिर्दिशि
- 10 येन पंचधारांगणे गजपतिं जयताभ्यर्षचि ॥ शूराग्रणि(णी)भरणिपाटिपुरीसमीपे यः
त्रिं(र्तिं)न-
- 11 भूतकपतिं कद[ने] व्यनैषीत् । यस्तेजसा च पेड(द)कीडपुरीसमीपे रक्षीवनात्
दतुरुखान-
- 12 सुखानज(जै)षीत् ।[*] येनैव सूरवरपट्टनसंनिधाने वीरान्नवीतनृपतिर्विजितो विनो-
दात् । तस्याग्रहीत् कर-
- 13 सरोरुहमन्नेमांश भक्तौश्वर(र)स्य गिरिजैव शशांकमौक्रे ॥ भक्तौश्वरोयमथ निर्मित-
वानुदाराम-
- 14 जूं(जूं)भमाणविभवां पुरमात्मनाम्ना । या पुण्यशैलमनुजाश्रयणि ज्ज(ज)गत्यां कस्याच-
नामक-

Third Plate ; Second Side.

- 15 मनिव्व¹तरापराभूत् ॥ आंध्रावतंसमिह कामपुरी प्रमिडा विस्तारिसर्वविभवा
सुकुतैक-
- 16 भूमिः । [जि]त्वासरंदनगरीं क्षपितात्मपुण्यामुजूं(जूं)भर्त मततसंचरदंन(दन्न)दाना ॥
हर्म्येषु य-
- 17 च निशि निर्भरकामतंत्रकांताकुचांतरगळ्ळुगनाभिरणी । नित्यं चरन्मिगतगुरप्यभज-
त्काळंकिभा-
- 18 चं ध्रूं(ध्रु)वं जयति कामपुरीयमुर्व्यां(र्व्याम्) ॥ यच्चानुवीयि विचरन्नरुणोदयादिवेकासु
सूचि-
- 19 तशिवाश्चनकर्मयश्चः । घंटाखः श्रुति²पथेन मनः प्रविश्य तत्राप्यचं हरति कामपुरी-

¹ Read °जीव°

² Read श्रुति°

- 20 यमोद्या ॥ यत्रांगे महितपुष्पफलैकगम्ये कस्तूरिकाद्यगणितार्थगणं निरीक्ष ।
विद्वज्जो-
- 21 भवदर्नतपदार्थवादी सर्वोपि सा जयति कामपुरी पृथिव्यां [1*] भक्तीश्वरस्य
तनयो महि-
- 22 तोन्नदेवस्तस्याभवज्जगति जंगमपारिजातः [1*] सौंदर्यसीमपरिभूतजयंतकी-
- 23 त्तिर्त्तावस्थानिष्ठुतनवीनमृगांकमूर्तिः ॥ वेश्यांगनायितविरोधिधरातर्केंद्रो बाहुप्रताप-
- 24 विभवादनदेवभूपः । भूत्वा तुरुष्कनृपतेस्सगरे सहायः कर्नाटसैन्यमसिमाचसखो
- 25 व्यनैषौत् ॥ उद्द्वृत्तिविभवाक्षिपुरीमिवेशो यो जम्बवागमुखवैरिप(पु)रास्वजैषौत् । सं-
- 26 जीवनं सुश्वरदिजपुंगवानां जागर्क्षयं जगति चोडकुलान्नदि(दे)वः ॥ भास्वीन(स्व)तः
सुकृत-
- 27 वान् सुरविप्रवर्यविश्वासविस्तृतसमस्तविभूतिभेदः । श्रीविश्वनाथचरणार्चनसक(क्त)भक्तिमृत्सु⁴
- 28 जयो जयतु⁵ चोडकुलान(लान्न)देवः ॥ श्रीचक्रवर्त्तितनयामिरुगाक्षिकां यः सूर्याम्ब-
वायसु-

Fourth Plate ; First Side.

- 29 कृतैकफलं सुशीलां(लाम्) ॥ (1) पिंनुंडिभूपसहजां ललनाललामभाश्वोन्नतामुदवह-
[न्निरि]जामिवेशः ॥
- 30 श्रीवीरभद्रनृपतिर्भुवनैकवीरो यस्यात्मजत्वमगमद्रविम(व)शदीपः । सोयं विनिर्जित-
समस्तवि-
- 31 रोधिभूपो जागर्त्ति चोडकुलमंडनमंन(मन्न)देवः ॥ येनैव भूविदितमत्तिलिसीक्षि
सर्वान्निर्जित्य दक्षि-
- 32 णदिगोश्वरवैरिभूपान् । तत्पट्टनावरणमध्यगताश्च नम्रास्सम्भ्र(स्मर)चिता दशसहस्रमिता
विपक्षाः [1*]

¹ Read °गणितार्थ°

² Read °पदार्थ°

³ The Telugu numeral figure 3 indicating the number of the plate is inscribed between the letters *de* and *na*.

⁴ The *anusvāra* is inscribed at the beginning of the next line.

⁵ The syllable *tu* is written below the line.

- 33 अध्वर्युभूतपिनयुडिन्टपेण येन श्रीगौतमी निकटकांक००पत्तिवेद्यां । आलभ्य कंन-
(कन्न)डमुखा[रि]-
- 34 पशूनकारि वीराध्वरो निजसुहृत्परिरक्षणायै(य) ॥ पादांबुजप्रणतकाटयवेमवंशः¹ कीर्त्यै-
कवत्स-
- 35 लतया समरक्षि येन । सोयं विभाति शरणागतभूपरक्षादीक्षागुरुर्जयति चोडकु-
36 लांन(लान्न)देवः ॥ यस्मिन् प्रशामति महीमनदेवभूपे सर्वोपसर्गारहिता मनुजास्त-
देव । पूगेक्षुकान-
- 37 नतक्केषु मुदा रमंते नित्ये(त्यो)त्सवो विजयतेयमुदारतेजाः ॥ यद्देश एव विततेक्षुवने
सुपकशाब्धा-
- 38 दिसस्वभरिते सहकारसांद्रे । सर्वोपसर्गारहिते सुकृतैकगमै(भ्ये) खेळन्ति नूनममरा
मनुजावता-
- 39 राः ॥ यद्देशमौळिमणिमुच्छुडिप्रोलवारं नानादिगागतमहावणिजां निवासं(सम्) ।
शंखाद्यनेकनिधि-
- 40 नित्यनिवासभूमिं स्मृत्वा भियेव धनदोभजदोशसख्यं(ख्यम्) ॥ षड्दालपूजितमदाशिव-
पादपद्मो नित्यां-
- 41 न(त्यान्न)दाननियमार्चितभूमिदेवः । गोरार्जकतनममर्पितगोमहम्नो विभ्राजते विमळवंश-
भवौन(वोन्न)दे-
- 42 वः ॥ नित्यं गिरीशचरणारूढोदयादिवेळ(का)सु षट्स्रपि मुदायुतसंख्यदीपैः ।
नौराजयन्विम-

Fourth Plate ; Second Side.

- 43 ऊचोडकुलांन(लान्न)देवो जागर्ति राजपरमेश्वर एष भूम्यां(म्याम्) ॥ चामौकरव्यज-
नचामरकेतुमुक्ताच्छ-
- 44 [तां]कहेमललनांकितसप्तभौमं(मम्) । मौवर्णमिंदुमुकुटाय मम[प्ये] कां[तां(तं) मौधं]
समुत्त-
- 45 सति चोडकुलांन(लान्न)देवः ॥ माधुर्यमुख्यरमषद्विलामिष्टनित्यांन(त्यान्न)दानविभवापह-
तक्षु[धा]र्ति । [शै]-

¹ The letter *va* in *vashāh* is written above the line.

- 46 वद्विजेन्द्रजटियोगिकुलं प्रहृष्टं यत्पट्टेने विजयतामयमंगल(मङ्ग)देवः ॥ श्रीगीतगीनिकट-
 47 पट्टेसवीरभद्रप्राति हजेन्द्रनिकराय गवां सहस्रं(सम्) । दत्वा(त्वा)य तत्तृषमसी मयितुं किकादाचो-
 48 डांन(डाङ्ग)देवपतिर्जालधिं(धीं)य सप्त ॥ येनाशिकाभपि धरां स सुराद्रिमुख्यामु-
 त्तप्तकाचनमयां(यीं)
 49 ददता द्विजेभ्यः । भूमाचदः पटु जितः किक जामदग्न्यचोडांन(डाङ्ग)देवरघुनायक
 एष भाति ॥
 50 येनैव¹ गोमुखगिरीश्वरवीरभद्रदेवालयो महितहेममयः कृतोभूत् । श्रीकाशिकाधि-
 51 पतये कुलदेवतायै ग्रामाच्च विरूपतय² समदायि येन ॥ सौवर्णमात्मकुलशेखरचोड-
 वंध्य[द्रा]-
 52 चादिरामपुरभीमयसौधमृगं(मम्) । आश्रमस्त्रीमकुडरत्नमकारि येन चोडांन(डाङ्ग)देव-
 धरणीतकनाय[केन] ॥
 53 येयं लसद्विषा³नाटिसमाख्यदेशे चोडांन(डाङ्ग)देवरघुनायकमंगलपूर्व(वर्म) । गंगातटे
 भुवनविभूत-³
 54 पिंन(पिङ्ग)सानिसंगेन(गिङ्ग)देवपतिर्द्विजसादकर्षीत्⁴ ॥ पञ्चूरिशैलवरपश्चिमसीकि गंगा-
 तीरेन(रेङ्ग)देववरना-
 55 ववहा⁵प्रहारः । पुष्टेन येन समदायि महाजनेभ्यचोडांन(डाङ्ग)देवधरणीपतिरेव भाति ॥
 येनो-
 56 भयान्वयविनिर्मकविप्रवर्या विद्यीन(द्यो)ता विधिवदुद्दहनं प्रणीताः । सूर्यान्वह(वा)य-
 तित्त[केन च]

Fifth and Sixth Plates missing.

Seventh Plate ; First Side.

- 1 भारद्वाजकुलार्णवपूर्वसुधा(धा)रश्मिरवनिपतिमिचं [1*] श्रीकृचनार्णवतनयः शिं(सिं)गयना-
 2 मा द्विजेन्द्र इह भागी ॥29॥ [कां]द्विज⁶गोचाम्बिसुधामयूषः कीवूरिरामात्मज-
 रामचंद्रः । आ-
 3 चारवा⁷गामतत्व(त्व)दर्शी भागीह सृष्टुंजयपादभक्तः ॥30॥ कौडिन्वगोचाम्बिसुधामयूष-
 ते

¹ The Telugu numeral figure 4 denoting the number of the plate preceded by a vertical stroke is inscribed here between the letters *va* and *gō*.

² Read विरूपतये.

³ Read द्विजसादकर्षीत्.

⁴ Read कौडिन्व.

⁵ Read विभूत.

⁶ Read नामसहा.

⁷ Read चाचारवानाम.

- 4 జా[:] శ్రీమాస్కర[:] శ్రీనృహరేస్తానృజ: । సాంగాగమే సంచితకీర్తిరచ భాగో సదాచా-
రవతాం వరేణ్య: । [1*]31॥
- 5 శ్రీ[కా]చ్ఛిభద్రతనయ: కాశ్యపగోత్రాభిపూర్ణహిమరశ్మి: । నారాయణోత్ర భాగో జ్యోతి:-
శాస్త్రీకమర్మ-
- 6 తత్వ(త్వ)జ్ఞ: [1*]32[1*] శ్రీగృడపర్తివల్లభతనయ: శ్రీయోమకేంద్రనామాచ । భాగో
కాశ్యపగోత్ర: పుష్కలస్థా-
- 7 శ్మశ్చంద్రమా విదాన్ ॥33॥ శాశ్వతగోత్రతలకో వి[హ]యనామద్విజాతివరశ్శు: । యజుర్ణ-
వచన్ద్రయశా
- 8 వరదయామాచ భాగవాన్విప్ర: [1*]34[1*] శ్రీరామాదిమగ్ని(సి)గయతన[యో] గంగాధర-
ద్రవిప్రేంద్ర: [1*]
- 9 కౌండిన్యగోత్రపాత్ర భాగో యజుషా నిధానమిహ పుణ్య: [1*]35[1*] శ్రీగౌరయవిప్రేశ్వర-¹
తనయ[:] శ్రీ-
- 10 [సి]మనాశ్శయో విదాన్ । భారహజకులాంబుజభానుయశా భాగవానచ ॥36॥ శ్రాదిత్వావని-
దేవప్రి-
- 11 యతనయో హరితవంశపద్మాక్ష: । యాజుషమణిరత్నాకరతేజా: పురుషో(షో)త్తమోచ లక్ష్మీశ:
[1*]37[1*]
- 12 శ్చిశ్చిపిక్వచయభ్రుశురనందనో హరితవంశమహార్ణవచంద్రమా: । సకఠశాస్త్రయ(ర)హస్వవిద-
13 శవానిహ హి తస్యనామ సుధీశ్వర: [1*]38[1*] కౌండిన్యవంశార్ణవచంద్రమూర్తి[:*]
శ్రీయన్(య)మహాశు-
- 14 రనందనోచ [1*] విశ్వేశ్వరో యాజుషభాగ్యదేవం లక్ష్మీశవానచ సతాం వరేణ్య: [1*]39[1*]
మోపాఠభద్ర[త్త]జ య
- 15 పుణ్య: శ్రీయన్(య)మాఖ్యో హరితాన్వవాయ: । జ్యోతిర్విద్యేశ్వరకోర్తిరచ లక్ష్మీశవానాగమపార-
దృశ్వా [1*]40॥
- Seventh Plate ; Second Side.*
- 16 మంజుపింగాధరవరతనయ[:*] కాండిన్యవంశాధ్వో(ధ్వో)దు: [1*] శ్రీనయ[నామా భాగో యజు]షా
నిధిరచ స-
- 17 మతాచార: [1*]41[1*] శ్రీభారహజాన్వయవల్లభధరణీశురాత్మజ: పుణ్య: । లక్ష్మణనామా
విప్రో వేదవిద[ద](విద)-

¹ The letter *ra* is inscribed below the line just under *śa* and *ta*.² Read కౌండిన్య.

- 18 चांशवान्धन्यः [1*]42[1*] सादण्डुलविबुधवरो वल्लभदयालभानुमाण्युषः । कांडि¹न्ध-
वंशतिल-
- 19 को भागी वेदैकमूर्तिरिह साधुः [1*]43[1*] श्रीमन्नागर्याविद्वत्तनयो निगमैक-
मूर्तिरिह भागी । दुंडि-
- 20 गडनागनामा काश्यपगोत्राभिपूर्णिमाचंद्रः [1*]44[1*] श्रीराजुकीडमन्त्रयतनयः[*]
श्रीमन्निकार्जुनाख्या-
- 21 नः । काश्यपगोत्रपवित्रो भागी निखिकागमैकतत्व(स्व)न्नः [1*]45[1*] मंडुगूरि² लक्ष-
नाख्यो मान्यो विदुषां समस्तश-
- 22 स्तन्नः । भारद्वाजकुलार्णवचंद्रो भागीह वेदतत्व(स्व)न्नः [1*]46[1*] कोललपत्तिपुरा-
दिमंशिं(सिं)गयतनयो य-
- 23 जुर्निधिः पुण्यः । श्रीकृष्णहिजनामा काश्यपगोत्रा(त्रो) गृहीतभागोत्र [1*]47[1*]
श्रीकंदुकूरियौभक्तन-
- 24 यः[*] श्रीरामनामात्र भागी [1*] यालुषमन्निगलजलधिह(र्ह)रितान्वयावर्तसयशाः
[1*]48[1*] श्रीकृष्ण-
- 25 व्यतनया³ यजुराकरबुद्धिरमितगुणकांतिः । श्रीमाननंतनामा भागी श्रीवत्सवंशवार्धौदुः
[1*]49[1*]
- 26 श्रीभारद्वाजकुलो देवयधरबीसुरात्मजः पुण्यः । श्रीभक्तनामा भागी यजुरध्वनैकशुद्ध-
बुद्धिरि-
- 27 ह [1*]50[1*] श्रीसर्वदेवतनयाय जनार्दनाय कांडिन्ध⁴गोत्रतिलकाय महाजनेन्द्राः ।
ते सर्व एव स-
- 28 सुदीरितशासनाय स्त्रीयैकभागसदृशं व्यतरन्निहांशं(शम्) [1*]51[1*] भक्त्या कल्ज-
ॐकोमराजतनयेनात्र
- 29 प्रतिष्ठ(ष्टा)पितृश्रीकेदारमहेश्वराय महसे श्रीमाधवेन हिजाः । सर्वे ते स्थिरभागने-
कमदुराचंद्रार्कमा-
- 30 [तारकां]⁵ . . . [आसा]दित् भोगभाग्यसुषमा[स्त्रै]र्याय कौतूहलात् [॥52॥*]

¹ Read कौंडिन्ध.^०

² Read मंडुगूरि.^०

³ Read ०तनयो. The Telugu numeral figure 7 denoting the number of the plate is inscribed at the beginning of the line.

⁴ Read कौंडिन्ध.^०

⁵ [I would read the portion as : -ā-chandr-ārkkam=ārkkāṁśaj-ḍrviśvar-(śēn=?) ōdita-ōga-bhāgya etc.—N. L. R.]

vii, b.

16
 18
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 22
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16
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No. 3.—RAJIM STONE INSCRIPTION OF THE NALA KING VILASATUNGA.

By PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M. A., NAGPUR.

Rājīm is a well-known holy place, 28 miles south by east of Raipur, the head-quarters of the Raipur District in the Central Provinces. It is situated on the eastern bank of the Mahānadi at the junction of the Pairi with that river. A fair is held there for a fortnight from the full-moon day of Māgha in honour of the god Rājīvalōchana. The principal temples at Rājīm are those of Rājīvalōchana, Rāmachandra and Kulēsvara. They have been described in detail by Mr. Beglar and General Cunningham in the *Archaeological Survey of India Reports*, Vol. VII, pp. 148-56 and Vol. XVII, pp. 6-20, respectively. Mr. Cousens¹ and Mr. Longhurst² who visited the place in 1903 and 1907 have also written notes on them in their respective Progress Reports.

As early as 1825 Mr. Richard Jenkins, who was Resident at Nagpur, drew attention to three inscriptions at Rājīm, of which he sent eye-copies and facsimiles to Mr. W. B. Bayley, Vice President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal³. One of these was the copper-plate inscription of Tivaradēva, which has since been edited by Dr. Fleet in the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, pp. 291 ff. The remaining two were stone inscriptions, one of which, viz., that of Jagapāla, was later on edited by Dr. Kielhorn in the *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XVII, pp. 135 ff. The third inscription has, however, remained unpublished so far. Jenkins had sent a copy and a facsimile of this record also to the Asiatic Society of Bengal, but as 'it was too much mutilated to be decipherable with any degree of satisfaction', no transcript of it was published in the *Asiatic Researches*, Vol. XV which contained transcripts, imperfect of course, of the other two. The inscription was, for the first time, very briefly noticed by Dr. (then Mr.) D. R. Bhandarkar in Cousens' *Progress Report of the Archaeological Survey of Western India* for 1903-04, p. 48. He drew attention to the names of the princes Andapānala⁴ Prithvirāja, Virūparāt and Vilāsatuṅga and of the *Sūtradhāra* Durgahastin and stated that the inscription recorded the erection of a temple of Vishṇu. He, further, assigned the record to about the middle of the 8th century A. D. This account was followed by Rai Bahadur Hiralal in his *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*⁵, but he, for the first time, correctly read the name of the king Nala in line 6. Owing presumably to its mutilated condition, the inscription has so far received little attention⁶, but as it is the only stone record of the Nala dynasty found in the Central Provinces, I edit it here from the original stone, Cunningham's facsimile⁷ and inked estampages taken under my supervision.

Like the aforementioned inscription of Jagapāla, the present record is incised on a slab of stone which is built into the left hand wall of the *maṇḍapa* of the temple of Rājīvalōchana. The record contains 22 lines and at present covers a space 3' 8" broad and 1' 4" high. Some *aksharas* have, however, been lost on the right and left sides under the lime border.

¹ *P. R. A. S. W. I.* for 1903-04, pp. 24 ff.

² *An. Rep. A. S. E. C.* for 1907-08, p. 35.

³ *Asiatic Researches*, Vol. XV, pp. 501 and 511.

⁴ *Loc. cit.*

⁵ Dr. Bhandarkar seems to have wrongly read *khyātō=ndapānala iti* instead of *khyātō nripō Nala iti* in line

6. These words were for the first time correctly read by R. B. Hiralal.

⁷ First ed. (1916), p. 103; second ed. (1932), p. 112. Hiralal read the word *Pāṇḍava* in line 4, which, if correct, would connect this family with the *Sōmavamsīs*. But I do not find it anywhere in this record.

⁸ Rao Bahadur C. R. Krishnamacharlu, while editing the *Podāgaḍh* inscription, remarked that that was 'the first stone record of the Nala dynasty' discovered till then (above, Vol. XXI, p. 155).

⁹ *A. S. I.*, Vol. XVII, plate IX.

This was the state of things even in Cunningham's time, but since then the lime border has made further encroachments so that some *aksharas* on either side, which appear clear in his facsimile, have since become invisible. The writing has, again, suffered considerably in the middle and specially on the proper left. Besides, as several letters have now become choked up with oily dust, the inscription does not yield a satisfactory estampage. I have, therefore, mainly relied on Cunningham's facsimile which is quite clear though somewhat touched up by hand¹. I have, however, checked some doubtful readings by a personal examination of the original record.

The characters are of the proto-Nāgarī type resembling those of the Sirpur stone inscription of Mahā-Śivagupta—Bālārjuna². The stroke of the medial *ā* is often placed on the top of letters see *pāda*- and *tasy-ābhū*—both in l. 6, and *śrī-hāri* in l. 15; *kh* has two forms, one in which the right limb contains a loop and the other in which it is without it, see e. g., *duḥkha*-, l. 15 and *saukhy*-, l. 3; *j* is generally tripartite; in some places its upper bar is reduced to a wedge as at the top of other letters, but the central bar has not completely bent down, see *divja*-, l. 3 and *riḥay*-, l. 12; *p* is open at the top as in *vapushō* l. 5; *y* is throughout bipartite, see *śriyam*-, l. 4; in its subscript form the letter has an elongated rectangular shape as in the aforementioned Sirpur stone inscription; the right limb of *l* is not brought down as in the proper Nāgarī alphabet; *d* and *r* have developed serifs at their lower ends, while *h* is without a tail, see *vadanti* and *alpa-sāram*, both in l. 14 and *vikṛitā* in l. 18; a final consonant is indicated by an encircling curve in *bhāvāt*, l. 14 and by a slanting stroke at the bottom as in *upārjanīyam*, l. 14. The language is Sanskrit and the record is composed metrically throughout. There are twenty-nine verses in all, none of which is numbered. The orthography exhibits the usual peculiarities of the reduplication of a consonant after *r* and the use of *v* for *b*, see *chandr-ārka*- and *Vali*-, both in l. 5.

The inscription is one of a king, probably Vilāsatuṅga, of the Nala dynasty. The object of it is to record the construction, by the king, of a temple dedicated to Viṣṇu. It opens, as might be expected, with some verses invoking the blessings of that god. There are as many as five verses of this type, of which the first is almost completely lost. The fourth verse is in the form of a dialogue between Hari (Viṣṇu) and Lakṣmī, while the fifth describes the Dwarf incarnation of Viṣṇu. Verse 6 which is partly defaced apparently glorifies a royal family³ which by means of *double entendre* is compared with the sun. The next verse describes Nala as one who had surpassed the god of love by his splendid form and whose lotus-like feet were kissed by the bee-like crest-jewels of a crowd of hostile kings who submitted to him. This Nala is plainly the well-known legendary king of that name glorified in the *Mahābhārata*. The record next proceeds to describe, in verses 8 and 9, Pṛithvirāja who, like the stream of the Rēvā (Narmadā), was venerated by all people and was, like Māndhātṛi, created by God as He found the world tainted by the attack of the Kali age. Verses 10-12 are devoted to the glorification, equally conventional, of Pṛithvirāja's son Virūparāja. Verse 14 mentions Vilāsatuṅga who was probably a son⁴ of Virūparāja. The next three verses (15-17) were probably devoted to his praise, but they are very badly mutilated. It was pro-

¹ The facsimile is misleading in a few places. See for instance *agrē* in l. 16 and *purushēṣa* in l. 18, which cannot be read as such from the facsimile, but are clear in my estampage.

² Above, Vol. XI, pp. 184 ff.

³ Some word like *vamśaḥ* is lost at the end of line 5.

⁴ No word specifying this relation occurs in the extant portion, but the word *vilāsinaḥ* in the ablative or genitive case in verse 14 probably refers to Virūparāja.

bably this king Vilāsatunga who erected the excellent and lofty temple of Viṣṇu¹ which is described in verses 19-22. This is followed by the usual prayer to future rulers to preserve the religious monument and the hope that it would last for ever. The *praśasti*, as the inscription is called in verse 23, was composed probably by Durgagōla. It was incised by the artisan (*Sūtradhāra*) Durgahastin, son of Jalahastin.

The inscription is not dated², but on palaeographic grounds it was considered to be not later than the 8th or 9th century A.D. by Cunningham³ and was referred to about the middle of the 8th century by D. R. Bhandarkar.⁴ As stated before, its characters resemble those of the Lakshmaṇa temple inscription of Mahā-Śivagupta—Bālārjuna at Sirpur. I have stated elsewhere⁵ the evidence on which I place Tivaradēva in *circa* A.D. 530-550 and his grand-nephew Mahā-Śivagupta in the first half of the seventh century A.D. The Nala kings mentioned in the present inscription seem to have established themselves in the Raipur District some time after Mahā-Śivagupta. It may, therefore, not be wrong to assign the present record to about A.D. 700.

Until recently the Nala dynasty was known only from references to them in the Aihole inscription⁶ of Pulakēśin II and some records⁷ of the Later Chālukyas of Kalyāṇī. In the former, Kirtivarman I, the father of Pulakēśin, is called the night of destruction to the Nalas, Mauryas and Kadambas. Dr. Fleet thought that the territory of the Nalas lay in the direction of Bellāry and Karnūl, because a copper-plate inscription from the Karnūl District records the grant, by Vikramāditya I of the Early Chālukya dynasty, of the village Ratnagiri in the Naḷavāḍi-*vishaya*, which according to Dr. Fleet, is identical with the modern Ratnāgiri in the Maḍakṣirā *tālukā* of the Bellāry District.⁸ The discovery of the Rithapur plates of Bhavadattavarman⁹ showed that the Nalas had extended their sway, for a time at least, to the ancient Vidarbha. These plates are inscribed in box-headed characters resembling those of the Vākāṭaka grants. They were issued from Nandivardhana which I have shown elsewhere¹⁰ to have been the Vākāṭaka capital before the foundation of Pravarapura. The occupation of this important city in the heart of the Vākāṭaka territory points to the conclusion that the Nalas had invaded the Vākāṭaka kingdom and established themselves for a time in Vidarbha. This is again confirmed by the statement in the Bālāghāṭ plates that the Vākāṭaka Prithivishēṇa II raised his sunken family.¹¹ He seems to have driven out the Nalas from Vidarbha and to have even carried the war into the enemy's territory.

¹ Verse 20 shows that the king built the temple for the increase of the religious merit of his son who had died.

² Beglar thought that the inscription contained two dates—one 870 or 879 and the other seven hundred and odd, the units and tens being mutilated, *A. S. I. R.*, Vol. VII, p. 152, but this is wholly incorrect. What Beglar supposed to be the figures 870 or 879 is only the word *utkirṇā* in l. 22.

³ *A. S. I. R.*, Vol. XVII, p. 7.

⁴ *P. R. A. S. W. I.*, for 1903-04, p. 48.

⁵ Above, Vol. XXI, pp. 18 ff. and Vol. XXIII, p. 118.

⁶ Above, Vol. VI, pp. 1 ff.

⁷ See, for instance, the Kaṭhēm grant of Vikramāditya V, *Ind. Ant.* Vol. XVI, p. 15.

⁸ *Bomb. Gaz.*, Vol. I, part II, p. 363. The Naḷavāḍi-*vishaya* is also mentioned in the Dayyamdinne plates of Vinayāditya dated Śaka 614. See above, Vol. XXII, pp. 24 ff.

⁹ Above, Vol. XIX, pp. 100 ff. The king's name appears wrongly as Bhavattavarman in this inscription.

¹⁰ Above, Vol. XXII, pp. 210 ff.

¹¹ Above, Vol. IX, p. 271.

The Poḍāgaḍh stone inscription¹ states that Bhavadattavarman's son restored the glory of his family and re-settled the capital Pushkari which had been devastated by the enemy. This enemy was probably none other than the Vākāṭaka Prithivishēpa II.

The Poḍāgaḍh stone inscription points to the south-eastern portion of Mahākōsala, comprising the Bastar State and the adjoining Jeypore Agency, as the home of the Nalas. The *Purāṇas* also state that the Nalas ruled over Kōsalā² which must be taken to mean Dakṣiṇa Kōsala or Mahākōsala. No predecessors of Bhavadatta were so far known, but recently in 1939 a hoard of gold coins of the Nala dynasty was discovered at the village Eḍengā in the Koṇḍegāon *taluk* of the Bastar State.³ This hoard comprised coins of three kings, viz., Varāha, Bhavadatta and Arthapati. It seems that Varāha preceded Bhavadatta who was himself followed by Arthapati. From the Rithapur plates we know that Arthapati was a son of Bhavadattavarman.⁴ He evidently succeeded Bhavadatta and ruled for a time in Vidarbha, but was ultimately driven out by Prithivishēpa II. Skandavarman,⁵ another son of Bhavadatta, is known from the Poḍāgaḍh inscription. He rehabilitated the fortune of his family as stated above.

As Bhavadatta, Arthapati and Skandavarman were thus contemporaries of Narēndrasēna and Prithivishēpa II, they must have ruled in the south-eastern part of Mahākōsala in the second half of the fifth century A.D. The Drug, Raipur and Bilāspur Districts, which lay to the north of their territory, were held by the kings of the so-called Śarabhapura dynasty; for their inscriptions have been found at Āraṅg,⁶ Khariar,⁷ Raipur,⁸ Sāraṅgarh⁹ and Sirpur.¹⁰ These kings at first ruled from Śarabhapura, but subsequently their capital was shifted to Śripura, modern Sirpur, about 35 miles north by east of Rājim in the Raipur District. This dynasty was overthrown by the Early Śōmavamśis.¹¹ As I have shown elsewhere,¹² Udayana, the founder of this dynasty was ruling in Central India, for a stone inscription found at Kālāñjar records his construction of a temple of Viṣṇu evidently at Kālāñjara. He or his sons seem to have invaded Mahākōsala probably during a campaign of their Maukhari suzerain Iśvaravarman or Iśanavarman. Inscriptions of Udayana's grandson Iśānadēva and great-grandson Tivaradēva

¹ Above, Vol. XXI, pp. 153 ff.

² Pargiter's *Dynasties of the Kali Age*, p. 51.

³ For a detailed account of this hoard, see my article in the *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, No. I, pp. 29 ff.

⁴ The editor of the Rithapur plates took Arthapati mentioned towards the close of the record as an epithet (meaning 'the lord of wealth') of Bhavadatta himself, but this is incorrect. See *loc. cit.* p. 33.

⁵ The name of this prince, which occurs at the end of line 5 of the Poḍāgaḍh inscription is partly mutilated. It has been tentatively read as Skandavarman, but the subscript members of the ligatures *sk* and *nd* are not clear and it may be suggested, in view of the close similarity in the letters *s* and *a* in the alphabet of the period, that the intended name was Arthavarman. But the reading *Śrī-Arthavarmmaṇā* in place of *Śrī-Skandavarmanṇā* in lines 5-6 of that inscription would involve a hiatus and it appears doubtful if the name Arthapati would have been shortened into Artha or Arthavarman. I therefore take this prince to be different from Arthapati.

⁶ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, pp. 191 ff.

⁷ Above, Vol. IX, pp. 170 ff.

⁸ *Ibid.*, Vol. III, pp. 196 ff.

⁹ *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, pp. 281 ff. and Vol. XXII, pp. 15 ff.

¹⁰ *Ind. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. X, pp. 100 ff.

¹¹ Hiralal was of opinion that the Śōmavamśis preceded the kings of Śarabhapura, but this view is not correct, see above, Vol. XXII, p. 17, n. 3.

¹² Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 116 ff.

have been found in the Raipur and Bilāspur Districts, which were previously under the rule of the kings of Śarabhapura. These Early Sōmavaṃśīs ruled from Śrīpura. It has been already stated that a copper-plate inscription of Tivaradēva has been found at Rājim itself. The plates were issued from Śrīpura and record the king's grant of the village Pimparipadraka in the Pēṇthāma-*bhukti* to a Brāhmaṇa. It has been doubted whether this inscription belongs to Rājim at all,¹ for neither of the two places mentioned in it was identified in the vicinity of Rājim. But such a doubt can no longer be entertained; for the village Pimparipadraka is evidently Piprōd which lies only 3 miles north-west of Rājim.² The Sōmavaṃśīs continued to rule in Chhattīsgarh for some generations after Tivaradēva; for copper-plates and stone inscriptions of his grand-nephew Mahā-Śivagupta *alias* Bālārjuna have been found at Mallār³ in the Bilāspur District and at Sirpur and Āraṅg in the Raipur District.⁴ It is not known how long their rule lasted in Chhattīsgarh, for the later records of the dynasty have been found far away to the east in the Sambalpur and Cuttack Districts of Orissa and the Pāṇā and Sonepur States in the Eastern States Agency.⁵ A stone inscription at Āraṅg mentions Raṇakēśarin who was probably a brother of Mahā-Śivagupta⁶ and another at Sirpur names Śivanandi as a son of the same king,⁷ but it is not known if either of them came to the throne. The present inscription shows that the Sōmavaṃśīs were ultimately ousted from Chhattīsgarh by their southern neighbours, the Nala kings.

The Aihole inscription shows that the Nalas suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Kirtivarman I some time in the latter half of the sixth century A.D. As stated before, this Chālukya king is called the night of destruction to the Nalas, Mauryas and Kadambas. It seems, however, that the Nalas, like the Mauryas,⁸ were not totally exterminated. Like other princes of Kōsala and Kalinga,⁹ they must have submitted to Pulakēśin II also, but they found a favourable opportunity for expansion when the Chālukyan kingdom was overrun by the Pallavas at the end of Pulakēśin's reign. They invaded the country of their northern neighbours, the Sōmavaṃśīs, whom they drove to the east. The present inscription mentions three Nala princes, Prithvirāja, Virūparāja and Vilāsatunga. None of these names is known from any other record and their exact relation to the successors of Bhavadattavarman cannot be determined.

The history of Mahākōsala during the eighth and ninth centuries A.D. is still shrouded by a thick veil of obscurity. We do not therefore know how long the rule of Nalas lasted in this territory. An inscription on the architrave of the door of the sanctum in an exquisitely carved temple at Pāli about 12 miles north of Ratanpur records the construction of the temple by Vikramāditya, son of Malladēva. I have elsewhere¹⁰ shown this Vikramāditya to be Vikramāditya I of the Bāṇa dynasty, who was a son of Malladēva. He was also

¹ *P. R. A. S. W. I.* for 1903-04, p. 25.

² Above, Vol. XXIII, p. 116, n. 3.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 113.

⁴ *P. R. A. S. W. I.* for 1903-04, pp. 49-50.

⁵ See the tabular statement above, Vol. XI, pp. 198 ff.

⁶ Hiralal has shown that Raṇakēśarin mentioned in the Āraṅg inscription was a brother of Mahā-Śivagupta—Bālārjuna, above, Vol. XI, p. 185.

⁷ *P. R. A. S. W. I.* for 1903-04, p. 49.

⁸ The Mauryas were ruling in Kōṅkan till the reign of Pulakēśin II at least, see verses 20 and 21 of the Aihole inscription.

⁹ See verse 26 of the Aihole inscription.

¹⁰ *Proceedings of the Third Indian History Congress.*

called Jayamēru and Bāṇa-Vidyādhara¹ and flourished from circa A.D. 870 to 895. No other inscription of the Bāṇas has been discovered anywhere else in the Central Provinces. Hence we cannot say if they had extended their sway to the Raipur District in the south-west. In any case the rule of the Nalas must have ended towards the close of the 9th century when the Kalachuri Mugdhatuṅga-Prasiddhadhavaḷa, the son of Kōkalla I, conquered the country of Pāli from the lord of Kōsala².

We have seen above that the present inscription records the construction of a temple of Viṣṇu. The temple where the inscribed slab is set up at present is also dedicated to Viṣṇu under the name of Rājivalōchana (lotus-eyed). The image worshipped in it is made of black stone and is a common representation of Viṣṇu with the usual symbols of the mace, the discus, the conch and the lotus. As Cunningham has shown³, the temple is built on a peculiar plan, its most striking features being the shape of the *maṇḍapa* which is oblong instead of square and the sculptures on the pilasters which are large single figures, like those on Buddhist stūpa railings, instead of clusters of small figures 'as is usual in Brahmanical temples. This plan is evidently old and so the inscription is *primā facie* in its original position. Cunningham referred the construction of the temple to the 5th century A.D. on the supposition that the copper-plate inscription of Tivaradēva refers to it. This, of course, is incorrect; for the plates merely record the gift of a village to a Brāhmaṇa and have no connection with the temple. Cousens drew attention to the fact that in plan the Rājivalōchana temple at Rājim is a copy of the Lakshmaṇa temple at Sirpur⁴. Of the latter temple he found only the *garbhagṛiha* standing, while the *maṇḍapa* was in ruins. Relying on the statement of some people of Sirpur⁵ that several pillars and other sculptures had been taken from there to Rājim, Cousens suggested that the pillars, pilasters, door-frames and some sculptures used in the Rājivalōchana temple were brought from Sirpur and that the ruined temple of Lakshmaṇa was rifled for the purpose. He thought that the slab containing the present inscription also possibly came from the Lakshmaṇa temple and recorded its erection⁶. As stated before, when Cousens visited Sirpur the *maṇḍapa* of the Lakshmaṇa temple was in ruins. He recommended its fallen debris to be removed. When this was done, a large inscription of Mahā-Sivagupta—Bālārjuna was disclosed in it. This record has since been edited by R. B. Hiralal in this journal⁷. It registers the construction of a temple of Viṣṇu by Vāsaṭā, the mother of Mahā-Sivagupta. It is therefore plain that the present inscription could not have originally belonged to the Sirpur temple. Unfortunately it mentions no place-name which could have decided its original position indisputably. But it is inconceivable that a king who prays to future rulers for the preservation of his own religious monument would rifle a similar edifice of a past king to obtain ready made building materials⁸. It does not also seem likely that the Sirpur temple

¹ See Guḍimallam plates, above, Vol. XVII, pp. 1 ff.

² See verse 23 of the Bilhari stone inscription, above, Vol. I, p. 256 and verse 12 of the Benares plates of Karna, *ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 306.

³ *A. S. I. R.*, Vol. XVII, p. 9.

⁴ *P. R. A. S. W. I.* for 1903-04, p. 24. For the plans of the two temples, see *A. S. I. R.* Vol. XVII, plates V and XV with corrections in the latter pointed out by Cousens, *loc. cit.* Though the temple at Sirpur is now called the temple of Lakshmaṇa, it was originally dedicated to Viṣṇu, see below.

⁵ *A. S. I. R.*, Vol. VII, p. 41.

⁶ *Loc. cit.*, p. 25.

⁷ Above, Vol. XI, pp. 184 ff.

⁸ It is noteworthy in this connection that the present record describes in verse 22 the trouble and expense that one has to incur in erecting a unique temple.

- 3 [वराह ?] — ८ सौख्योचिताम् । प्रोत्फुल्लाम्बु(म्बु)रुहस्थितद्विजव[रां] वि(वि)-
भ्रच्छ्रियं सारसीं सन्तापप्रश्न(श्म)क्षमः स जगतः [शश्वक्षु]स्वायास्तु वः ॥३॥*]
कस्त्वं देवि हरिः सृशस्यपसर क्रोडीकृतः कक्षया — — — निपुषा मुख-
[प्र] ८ ८
- 4 — — कति सा क्षमा । हिते ?) वाग्भिर्च [तु] कर्मणा प्रकटितं
धि[ग्मा ?]श्च का [मे] रतिः सत्यवः श्रियमित्यपास्तरभसां श्रियन्प्रभुः पातु
वः ॥४॥*] शौर्यच्छैलेन्द्रशृङ्गप्रपतनरभसा[दु]द्यदभोधिवीचि[व्या]सङ्गा — [सहे]-
लोच्छलदति ८ ८ — — ८ — —
- 5 ८ घोरम् । उच्चैर्योगीन्द्रलीलाविरचितवपुषो व्यस्तचन्द्रार्कतारं यस्याभूद्विष्वमध्यात्म्य
इव स व(व)लिश्रीनिहन्ता हरि[व्यः] ॥५॥*] जयति प्रथितमहीधु[त्तु]ङ्गशिरो-
निहितनिजपादः । [नित्यो]दितप्रतापो(पः) [पूष्णा ?]दित्यो . . . ¹ ॥६॥*]
- 6 [आ*]सौदिलासिनजरूपजितस्मरोपि शान्तात्मनान्भुवि सदा सृष्टणीयवृत्तः । ख्यातो
नृपो नल इति प्रणतारिचक्रचूडामणिभ्रमरचुम्बि(म्बि)तपादपद्मः ॥७॥*]
तस्याभून्नि[ज*] — ८ — ८ ८ ८ — — — ८ — भूधृतो विन्ध्यस्ये[व*]
न[ग][स्य*]
- 7 — ८ ८ ८ [रट्ट ?]ष्टातिकान्तोन्नतेः । पृथ्वाराज इति क्रमोपचयिनीं वि(वि)भ्र-
च्छ्रियं निर्मलां सेव्यः सर्वजनस्य पापविगमाद्रेवाप्रवाहोपमः ॥८॥*] — — —
व जुगुप्सितः [स]म[गुणैः ?] — — ८ — — ८ —, — — — ८ ८ —
८ — ८ ८ व[धै]र्योतस्स यो धि ८ — ।
- 8 [नि*]श्चिन्त्यातिकलिप्रपातमलिनामालोक्ष लोकस्थितिं धात्रा सर्वगुणैः कृतः
क्षितिपति[र्मा] — [ढ] — — ८ मः² ॥९॥*] तस्योच्चै[र्जपुधे ?]श्वरव्यति-
[करव्यासात्म]कार्यो ८ —, [मि]त्राणां ८ ८ — ८ — ८ ८ — — — ८
— — ८ — । [वि*]ख्यातो हिमवानिवा ८ ८
- 9 ८ दः पुत्रः पतिर्भूतां धत्ते नाम विरूपराज इति यो दिग्वन्दिहृन्द[स्तुतम्]
॥१०॥*] [रू*]पिणाप्रतिमः [श्रु]तेन च पां³ सत्यान्वितस्था ८ —,⁴ [शौर्य ?]
स्यायतन[भयं परमि]ति — — ८ — — ८ — । — — — ८ ८ —
८ ८ ८ — — — ८ — — [गु*]णैर्यस्योच्चै[र्मनु] — ८ —

¹ Some four aksharas like *dbhavō vāṁśaḥ* are lost here. It is curious to note that the name *Śrī-Pūrṇadītya* in characters of the 8th century A. D. occurs on two pillars of this temple at Rājim, A. S. I. R., Vol. XVII, Plate X. [The *visarga-sandhi* in the preceding word *-pratāpō* does not justify the proposed reading *Pūrṇadītya* in the present instance.—B. C. C.]

² The last seven aksharas of this verse were probably *Māndhātṛi-rāj-ōpamaḥ*.

³ The context requires a reading like *brutēna vimalaḥ*.

⁴ Restore *s=tyāginām*.

- 10 ८ सकलं कीर्त्तिर्जगद्भ्राम्यते ॥[११॥*] शत्रुघ्नोतिव(व)लेन — ८ [मद*]नो
द[र्पे]ण कीर्त्या ८ —, — न्यारामतनु[र्वु(र्वु)]धः पृथुरणे भीष्मः प्रतापेन
च । — — — ८ ८ — ८ — ८ ८ ८ — — — ८ — — ८ —,
— — — ८ ८ — ८ — ८ ८ ८ — — — ८ — प्यः कृतः ॥[१२॥*]
प्रति[प*]-
- 11 [वै*]द्यभाजः सवितुरि — — इमानुरागधरः । . . णपरा
॥[१३॥*] विलासिनस्तुङ्गत[मा] ८ — —, विलासतुङ्गः ८ ८ — ८ — — ।
८ — ८ — — ८ ८ — ८ — —, ८ — ८ — — ८ ८ — ८ — —
॥[१४॥*] — — [ख*][ङ्ग]लताभिघात ८ ८
- 12 — [शङ्का]रिहृन्दाभ्रुवं पश्येमात्र समोत्थनेन विजयाधी[शं ?] स्तु[वं ?]तेन्यतः ।
प — — ८ ८ — ८ — ८ ८ ८ — — — ८ — — ८ —, मन्ये धीरपि
— ८ — ८ [वसु ?]धा(धां) कालेन [ना] — ८ — ॥[१५॥*] [म*]त्वा
स्वदे[हान्त]रिते[न] — —, — — ८ [वर्ण]न्य[सु]धाखिलानि*
- 13 [अ*]न्तस्तमुद्दिश्य विधान[ट]ष्टदाना(न)क्रिया[भि]र्ननु सद्य एव ॥[१६॥*] यथो[च्च ?]
पि — ८ ८ भूतलो[कि] पु[ना] ८ — — ८ ८ मेव [राज्ञा]म् । युगस्य य
— ८ ८ — ८ — —, पूर्वम्[पश्य*]न्ति परं स्मृतिज्ञाः ॥[१७॥*] ८
— ८ — — ८ ८ — ८ जे[भ्यः] चातुर्यश[स्त्र ?] ८ ८ —
- 14 ८ भावात् [।*] धर्मस्य मूलं च यशो वदन्ति ८ — ८ [त*]स्मात्तदुपाज-
नीयम् ॥[१८॥*] मत्वा चलं जीवितमल्पसारं [वु(वु)ङ्गा] कचिक्कीर्त्तनमेव
कायम् । कीर्त्तिः स्थिरा यस्य स [जी]वलोके तत्पुण्यमूर्त्तिश्चि[रजीव] एव
॥[१९॥*] — — — — ८ राज्ञा दशवदनभुजोत्थि[स]कै[लास*]-
- 15 [शृ*]ङ्गशीहारि [स्त्रे]न धाम्ना स्फुरदमलसुधा[नि]त्यन[व्ये ?]न्दुनेद[म्] । देवस्याशेष-
दुःखप्रभवभयनुदः कारितं स्थानमुच्चैर्विष्णोः पुण्याभिहृद्व्यौ [चि]दशजनसुखातिथ्य-
भाजः सुतस्य ॥[२०॥*] प्रातर्व्या[र्ब्बी]लार्करोचिर्व्यतिकरविलसच्चास्वामाधराभां
वि(वि)भ्राणं भूमिभाजां ८ ८¹

¹ The aksharas lost here and at the beginning of the next line may have been *su-viśa*.

No. 4.—VENKATAPUR INSCRIPTION OF AMOGHAVARSHA ; SAKA 828.

By R. S. PANCHAMUKHI, M.A., DHARWAR.

The inscription which is edited here for the first time was copied by Mr. N. Lakshminarayan Rao, M.A., in the field season of 1926-27 and included in the *List of the Bombay-Karnatak Inscriptions copied during the year 1926-27* as No. 82. It is standing on the site of the ruined village **Veṅkaṭāpūr** in the Gadag taluk of the Dhārwar District, close to the temple of Veṅkaṭeśa which is a modern construction of within fifty years. The place was visited by me along with the Superintendent for Epigraphy, in 1933-34 and again in 1935-36 when the inscription was examined by me *in situ* and its photograph and fresh impressions were taken under my supervision. I edit the record below with the kind permission of Rao Bahadur C. R. Krishnamachariu, B.A., the Superintendent for Epigraphy.

The inscription is engraved on a pillar-like black stone which, being broad at the base, gradually tapers at the top and the inscribed portion measures 2' 10" in length and 11" and 1' 6" in breadth at the top and bottom respectively. The top of the inscribed portion contains two sections one below the other. The first section bears the figure of a *līṅga* while the second has that of a cow and a sucking calf. The height of individual letters ranges between $\frac{3}{4}$ " and $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".

The **characters** belong to the southern class of alphabets which developed in the Kannaḍa districts of the Bombay Presidency in the 10th century A.D. and are regular for the period to which the record belongs. They exhibit round forms as against the antique, square and upright type that characterised the records of Amōghavarsha I¹ and his predecessors. They resemble the writing of the Soratūr inscription of Kṛishṇa II dated in Śaka 805² and as in that record, the *talekaṭṭu* of the letters is distinctly curved and crescent-like, in contrast with the horizontal straight lines found in the earlier inscriptions. Besides these observations generally applicable to the inscriptions of the early tenth century A.D. which marks the period of transition in the evolution of the Kannaḍa alphabet, the following points may be noted in the **palaeography** of the present record :—(1) The initial vowel *i* (*irpatte*, l. 3) is of the archaic type and the initial vowel *e* is used in *Eṇēṇāga* (l. 16). (2) Among the consonants, only three principal test letters, *viz.*, *j*, *b*, and *l*, are used : *j* is of the later cursive form as in the Nandavādige inscription³ of Śaka 822 (824), cf. *rājādhirāja* (ll. 7-8), *rājyābhi*^o (l. 8), *Chandratēja* (l. 13), etc. The letter *b* is presented throughout in its later cursive form. The letter *l* is used in its cursive form without the inward miniature representation of the principal part of the old square character, but peculiarly enough, it has a *talekaṭṭu* on the right-hand curve which is not met with in any record of this early period : cf. *vallabha* (l. 7), *Belvolam* (l. 9), *okkaltanam* (l. 17), etc. In only one case, this letter appears without the *talekaṭṭu*, *viz.*, *sale* (l. 9). (3) The record uses freely the special forms of *n*, *m* and *y*. The secondary form of *n* is used in *onduttaram* (l. 9), *n=āle* (l. 10), *Eṇēṇāga* (l. 16), etc.. The secondary form of *m* is used in *m=emba* (l. 3), *mahārāja* (l. 7), *mūnūrumum* (l. 10), etc. For the secondary form of *y*, see *Uṇṇāneya* (l. 3), *dasamiyūm* (l. 6), *vṛiddhiyondū* (l. 9), *Māyirmma* (l. 11), etc. *V* seems to have been written in its special cursive type in one case only, *viz.*, *per-ggāvunḍa* (l. 12). *Th* is unusually open at the left top which is curved inside to mark the aspiration : cf. *prithuvī* (l. 7). *D* cannot be distinguished from *ḍ* except in one case, *baḍḍarappode* (l. 18). The aspirate *ph* is used with a cross stroke on the right curve in *phalam* (l. 23). The Dravidian *!* and *r* are found in ll. 18, 19, 21 and 16 and 20 respectively.

¹ Mantravāḍi inscription : Śaka 787 (above, Vol. VII, p. 198, plate), Sirūr inscription : Śaka 788 (*ibid.*, p. 202), Nīlgund inscription : Śaka 788 (*ibid.*, Vol. VI, p. 98, plate), Soratūr inscription of the time of Amōghavarsha, A.D. 869 (*ibid.*, Vol. XIII, p. 176).

² Above, Vol. XXI, p. 206 and plate.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 221, and plate in Vol. XI, p. 127.

In regard to **orthograghy**, the following may be noted. (1) An *anusvāra* preceding a consonant in the body of a word is very often changed into the nasal of the class to which the following letter belongs, cf. =*onduttara* (l. 9), *Mahāsirivanta* (l.10), etc. (2) Palatal *ś* is substituted by a dental *s*, cf. *Saka* . . . *sata* (ll. 1-2), *dasami* (l. 5), etc. The **language** is ancient Kannada except the latter half of the imprecatory verse in Sanskrit beginning with *bahubhir=vasudhā dattā*, in which, it may be noted, *sadā* is written wrongly for *tadā* (ll. 21-22). On the expression *onduttaram*, attention may be drawn to Mr. N. Lakshminarayan Rao's remarks above, Vol. XXI, p. 207. It may be added that a similar expression occurs in another record of Kṛṣṇa II from the Mysore province dated in Śaka 835 (in words), Prajāpati, in the following passage : *Akālavarshadēvana vijayarājyam=onduttarōttaram=abhivriddhige salutire*¹.

The inscription refers itself to the reign of king **Amōghavarsha** and records the gift of a garden with one thousand creepers at **Māvinuru**, with proprietary rights (*sāmya*), made to **Chandratēja-Bhaṭṭāra**, pupil of Mallikārjuna-Bhaṭṭāra, by **Bagega** when the latter was the *Pergāvunḍa* (senior *gāvunḍa*) of **Sirivura**, **Māyirmma** was administering **Mulgunda-twelve** and **Mahāsirivanta** was governing **Beļvola-three-hundred** division. It is stated that **Mugina Kādamma**, **Erenāga**, **Kuppa** and **Māda** were holding the rights of *okkaltana* (cultivation rights) in the village and that if they were to destroy this gift, they would incur the sin of destroying **Vāraṇāsi**, the seven crores of ascetics, a tank, a garden and a cow.

The **date** of the gift is given as : **Wednesday, the 10th day of the dark half of Kārtika in the cyclic year Prabhava** falling in the **Śaka year 828** (expired). The year Prabhava fell according to Swamikannu Pillai's *Indian Ephemeris*, in Śaka 829 (expired) while according to Sewell's *Siddhāntas and the Indian Calendar*, it was Śaka 829 (current) i.e., 828 (expired) by the Northern system. In this year i.e., Śaka 828 (expired), the lunar month Śrāvaṇa was intercalated according to both the authorities and the details given in the record fell on Friday, November 14, A.D. 906 in which case, the weekday cited in the record would be a mistake. If Śrāvaṇa were not intercalated, the details would regularly correspond, for the lunar month Āśvina of the *Ephemeris*, to A.D. 906, **October 15, Wednesday**. But, for Prabhava, according to the Southern system (Śaka 829, expired), the date corresponded to A.D. 907, November 3, Tuesday;² 73.

From the title Amōghavarsha borne by the king, the date and the alphabet of the record, it is evident that this inscription is a **Rāshṭrakūṭa** document. The *biruda* was assumed by more than one king of the family and the earliest of them was Nṛpatuṅga Amōghavarsha I to whose reign the present inscription will naturally have to be assigned. But this possibility is precluded by the date Śaka 828 which falls right towards the close of his son Kṛṣṇa's reign, which, according to the Hirebidri inscription³, began in Śaka 800, the latest known date for his father being Śaka 799, Phālguna, śu. 10 (March, A.D. 878)⁴. If it is not a mistake on the part of the copyist-scribe or the engraver, we have to presume that Kṛṣṇa II also bore, like his father, the *biruda* Amōghavarsha.

During the 9th and 10th centuries A.D. Beļvola-three-hundred was held by a succession of Governors viz., Dēvaṇṇayya, in A.D. 866,⁵ 869,⁶ 872⁷ and Śaka 793, Vijaya (=probably A.D. 873)⁸ Maṅgatōraṇa in A.D. 893⁹ and Mahāsirivanta in A.D. 901,⁹ 907¹⁰ and 918.¹¹ It is not certain

¹ *Ep. Carn.*, Vol. VII, Sorab, 88.

² Bombay-Karnatak Collection No. 100 of 1935-36.

³ This is the date of completion of the *Jayadhavaḷaṭṭikā* of Virasēna during the reign of Amōghavarsha I.

⁴ Above, Vol. VI, pp. 98 ff.

⁵ B. K. No. 140 of 1926-27.

⁶ *Ibid.*, No. 246 of 1928-29.

⁷ *Ibid.*, No. 105 of 1926-27.

⁸ *Ibid.*, No. 20 of 1926-27.

⁹ *Ibid.*, No. 60 of 1926-27.

¹⁰ The Veṅkaṭāpūr inscription under publication (*ibid.*, No. 82 of 1926-27).

¹¹ *Ibid.*, No. 184 of 1932-33.

whether these officers were related to each other as father and son and inherited the governorship as an ancestral estate or were appointed there from time to time like the governors of a province in modern days. From the Hebbāl inscription of Śaka 896 (A.D. 975),¹ it is learnt that the district was presented to the Gaṅga king Būtuga II as *baḥvali* (dowry) at the time of his marriage with the Rāshtrakūṭa princess Rēvakanimmaḍi, the daughter of Amoghavarsha III Baddega. It was subject to the Gaṅga power since then as can be gathered from the Rōṇ inscription² of A.D. 942 and the Kurtakōṭi inscription³ of A.D. 946 where the Gaṅga prince is called the *bhāru* (brother-in-law) of Kṛishṇa III. The Ātakūr inscription of Kṛishṇa III and Būtuga II dated Śaka 872 (A.D. 949-50)⁴ states, however, that Kṛishṇa III was pleased with the valour of Būtuga displayed in the killing of the Chōḷa prince Rājāditya in the battle of Takkōḷam and granted to him as reward the districts of Banavāse, Purigere, Beḷvola, Kisukāḍu and Bāgenāḍu. This would show that Būtuga was dispossessed of his hold over the Beḷvola district in the interval between A.D. 946 and A.D. 949-50. But the circumstances under which this event must have happened are not apparent. It is not unlikely that his elder brother Rāchamalla called Rāchvā-malla in the Deōli plates⁵ of Kṛishṇa III (A.D. 940) by ousting whom from Gaṅgavāḍi, Būtuga had been placed on the throne, attempted to regain his power and wrested from him a portion of the territory including Beḷvola some time after A.D. 946. Būtuga must have sought the assistance of his brother-in-law Kṛishṇa III and with his help killed Rāchamalla. This latter incident is mentioned in the subsidiary inscription on the top of the Ātakūr stone⁶ dated Śaka 872 (A.D. 949-50) as an event of recent occurrence and so must have happened before the battle of Takkōḷam so that Kṛishṇa III could present Būtuga the districts mentioned above. Perhaps on the death of Rāchamalla, the territory including Beḷvola was formally annexed by Kṛishṇa III as an overlord and victor, to the Rāshtrakūṭa kingdom so that he could grant it to Būtuga in token of his services at the Takkōḷam battle. Beḷvola was held by Mārasimha II in A.D. 970⁷ and after the subversion of the family by the Western Chāḷukyas in about A.D. 975, it passed to the family of Kannapa and Śobhanarasa the officers of the Western Chāḷukyas.⁸

Of the places mentioned in the record, **Beḷvola-three-hundred** is the well-known district comprising portions of the modern Gadag, Rōṇ and Navalgund taluks of the Dhārwar District. **Mulgunda-twelve** was named after Mulgund the modern village of that name in the Gadag taluk. **Māvinuru** where the gift was made I am not able to trace. This is perhaps identical with Māvinūru at which, according to the Konnūr inscription, twelve *nivartanas* of land were granted to the Jaina sanctuary founded by Baṅkeya at Kōḷanūra. Kielhorn, who edited the record, has identified this village with the modern Mannoor 8 miles east by south of Konnūr.⁹

TEXT.¹⁰

- 1 ◎ Svasti [||*] Sa(Śa)ka-nṛpa-kāl-ātita-sam-
- 2 vatsara-sa(śa)taṁgaḷ-eṇṭunūra
- 3 irppattenṭaneyā¹¹ Prabhavam=emba va-

¹ Above, Vol. IV, pp. 350 ff.² *Ibid.*, No. 126 of 1926-27.³ Above, Vol. V, pp. 188 ff.⁴ B. K. Nos. 21 and 149 of 1926-27.⁵ Above, Vol. VI, p. 28.⁶ From the ink-impression and original stone.⁷ The letter *ya* is engraved below the line in small character.⁸ B. K. No. 175 of 1926-27.⁹ Above, Vol. VI, p. 55.¹⁰ Above, Vol. VI, p. 55.¹¹ See above, Vol. XX, pp. 65 f.

- 4 risham pravarttise [I*] tad-varshābhya-
 5 ntara Kārttikā(ka)-māsa bahula dasa(sa)-
 6 miyurū Budhavārad-andu [Sva*]sty=Amōgha-
 7 varsha prithuvī-vallabham mahārājādhi-
 8 rāja paramēsva(śva)ra bhāṭṭārara rājyābhi-
 9 vṛiddhiy=onduttaram sale Belvolam mū-
 10 nūrumam Mahāsirivantan=āle Mu-
 11 lgundu(da) panneradumam Māyirumman=āle Si-
 12 rivurake Bagega perggāvundam=āguttire
 13 Mallika(kā)rjuna-Bhāṭṭārara śishyar=Chandratōja-
 14 Bhāṭṭārargge Māvinurol=Bagega[nu] kōṭṭam
 15 sāvira(m) baḷliya tōṇṭada sāmyama Mugina
 16 Kāḍammanum Eṇāganum Kuppanum Māda-
 17 num=okkaltanam geyye mattam=alliy=o-
 18 kkal=ellam=i(i)dan=aliye baḷdar=appoḍ=ella
 19 Vāraṇāsiyumam¹=elkōṭi tapōdhanamu[mam]
 20 kereyuman=ārāmeyumam kavileyu-
 21 man=alida pāpam=akku ☉ yasya ya-
 22 sya yadā bhūmi(mis=)tasya tasya sadā (tadā)
 23 [pha]lam ☉ māṅgaḷam ☉

No. 5.—TWO EASTERN GANGA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM SUDAVA.

By R. K. GHOSHAL, M.A., CALCUTTA.

The two sets of copper-plates, which form the subject of the present paper, were found in course of some excavations near the temple of Dharmalingēśvara at the village of Sudava² (or, Sudaba) situated in the eastern division of the Parlākimēdi Estate in the Ganjām District of the Madras Presidency. At the time of the discovery, the plates were deposited in a mud-pot. They were received for examination by the Assistant Archæological Superintendent for Epigraphy from the Agent and Diwan to the Raja Bahadur of Parlākimēdi. They have been noticed in the *Annual Report on South Indian Epigraphy* for the year 1920-21 (C. P. Nos. 1 and 2, page 93), and published for the first time by Pandit Satya Narayana Rajaguru of Parlākimēdi³. I now re-edit the two records from two sets of ink-impressions kindly supplied by Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, Government Epigraphist for India.

A.—Plates of Dēvēndravarmān, son of Guṇārpava ; [Gaṅga] Year 184.

These are three plates of copper, each measuring about 7½" by 3½". Towards the proper right end of each plate there is a ring-hole, a little above ½" in diameter, through which the plates slide on to a copper-ring of 3½" diameter. The ends of the ring were soldered to a circular seal of 1½" in diameter. It bears in relief on a counter-sunk surface the figure of a

¹ Read Vāraṇāsiyumam=.

² In *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. II, p. 272 and *I. H. Q.*, Vol. XI, p. 300, the find-spots of these records are said to be Aḍava instead of Sudava. These two names perhaps indicate one and the same place.

³ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. II, pp. 271 ff.

VENKATAPUR INSCRIPTION OF AMOGHAVARSHA; SAKA 828.



bull, couchant to right, and a crescent above it. The edges of the plates are slightly raised into rims so as to protect the writing. The weight of the plates together with the ring and the seal is 102 *tolas*. The first and the third plates bear writing on their inner faces only, while the second one is engraved on both sides. Three of the inscribed faces of the plates have six lines of writing apiece, while the fourth has seven, the total coming to twenty-five lines in all, the last line containing only three or four letters. The inscription is on the whole in a good state of preservation.

The characters belong to the Southern class of alphabets and resemble those of the Chica-cole¹ (Year 183), Trilingi² (Year 192) and Siddhāntam³ (Year 195) plates of Dēvēndravarman, the donor of the present grant, already known to us.

Some of the palæographical features of the inscription are the following: (1) initial *a* occurs in line 5 and initial *ā* in l. 22, (2) the form of medial *ā* in *tā* of *mātā* (l. 9) is noteworthy, and (3) the final form of *t* occurs once only in *pūrvāt* (l. 16); the letter is smaller in size and is underscored once.

The numerical symbols for 100, 80 and 4 occur in the date which is given in l. 24.

The language of the inscription is Sanskrit. Excepting the three customary verses and one mentioning the writer towards the end, the whole of the record is in prose.

Among the orthographical peculiarities of the record may be mentioned the following: (1) the occurrence of the *jihvāmūliya* in lines 1 and 14, (2) the use of the *upadhmnūtiya* in lines 6 and 9, (3) the doubling of *t* before *y* in *sattya-*, *ttiyā-* (l. 7) and *parihṛittya* (l. 9), according to Pāṇini, viii, 4, 47, (4) the doubling of consonants after *r*, (5) the doubling of consonants before *r*, the exceptions being in lines 18 and 19, (6) the use of *anusvāra* in place of final *m* in ll. 12, 20 and 21, (7) the change of *visarga* into *s* before dental *s* (ll. 1, 2, 4, 8 and 9), (8) substitution of *anusvāra* by guttural nasal before a palatal sibilant in *nistrīṣa* (l. 4) and *vaṇṣyēna* (l. 22).

The inscription records the gift of the village of Haduvaka which was situated in the district (*vishaya*) called Pushyagiri-pāñchālī to the learned Brāhmaṇa teacher Pataṅga-Śivāchārya, who was the *guru* of the donor. The original donee again made over one half of the village to (*the god?*) Yāgēśvara-bhaṭṭāraka and the other half to his own disciples and disciples' disciples. The gift was issued from Kaliṅganagara on the occasion of the termination of the *dīkṣhā* ceremony of the donor. The donor was Mahārāja Dēvēndravarman, son of Guṇārṇava. The writer of the charter was Pallavachandra, son of Mātṛichandra, who belonged to the Apūrvanaṭa family. The witness of the gift was mahāmahattara Śavarānandīśarman and the engraver was Sarvachandra, the son of Khaṇḍichandra, the *bhōgika*.

The date, given in words as well as in figures, is the Year 184, which presumably refers to the Gaṅga era.

Of the localities mentioned, Kaliṅganagara has been variously located at modern Kaliṅga-paṭam or at Mukhaliṅgam. The village of Haduvaka is evidently the same as Sudava (or, Sudaba), the findspot of our inscription. The district of Pushyagiri-pāñchālī in which the village granted was situated, I am unable as yet to identify.

Palæographically, our inscription has to be placed in the second half of the 7th century A.D.

¹ Above, Vol. III, pp. 130 ff. and plates.

² I. H. Q., Vol. XI, pp. 300 ff. and plates.

³ Above, Vol. XIII, pp. 213 ff. and plates.

TEXT¹.

First Plate.

- 1 Ōm² Svasti[|*] Sakala-vasumatī-tala-tilakāyamānas³=sarvv-artu-sukha-ramaṇiyād=viṇaya-vataḥ Kaliṅganagara-
- 2 vāsakān=Mahēndr-āchal-āmala-śikhara-pratishṭhitasya oharāchara-gurōs=sakala-bhuvana-nirmmāṇ-aika-sūtttradhārasya
- 3 bhagavatō Gōkarṇasvāmīnaś=charaṇa-kamala-yugala-praṇāmād=vigalita-kali-kalaṅkō Gāṅg-āmala-ku-
- 4 la-tilakō nija-nistriṇśa(strimśa)-dhār-ōpārjitas⁴=sakala-Kaliṅg-ādhirājya[ḥ*] pravitata-chatur-udadhi-taraṅga-mē
- 5 khal-āvani-tal-āmala-yaśāḥ anēk-āhava-saṅkshōbha-janita-jaya-śabda[ḥ*] pratāp-āvanata-samasta-sāmanta-chakra-chū-
- 6 dā-maṇi-prabhā-maṇjari-puñja-rañjita-charaṇaḥ paramamāhēśvarō mātā-pitṛi-pād-ānudhyātō naya-vinaya-śaurya-[au]

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 7 dāryya-sattya-ttyāga-sampadām=ādihāra-bhūtaḥ śrī-Guṇārṇava-sūnur=mmahārājah śrīma-[d*]-Dēvēndravarmmā Pushyagiri-
- 8 pañchālī-vishayē Haduvaka-grāmē sarvva-samavētān=kuṭumbinas=sama(mā)jñāpayati [|*] Vīditam=astu bhavatā[m*] yath=āsmā-
- 9 bhir-ayam grāmas=sarvva-karaiḥ parihṛitty-ā-chandr-ārka=pratishṭham mātā-pitṛōr=ātmanaś=cha puṇy-ābhivṛiddhayē vēda-
- 10 vēdāṅg-ētiḥāsa-purāṇa-nyāya-vidyā-sva-siddhānt-ādhigatāya bhagavat-Pataṅga-Śivāchār-yyāya guravē di-
- 11 ksh-ōttara-kālē guru-pūjāyai dattas=tēn=āpi pratigrihya Yāgēśvara-bhaṭṭārakāy=ārdham sva-śishya-praśi-
- 12 shyēbhyō=py=ārdham(m)*ity=ēvam=viditvā yath-ōchita-bhāgabhogam=upa nayanta[ḥ*] sukham prativasat=ēti[|*] grāmasya sīmā-li-

Second Plate ; Second Side.

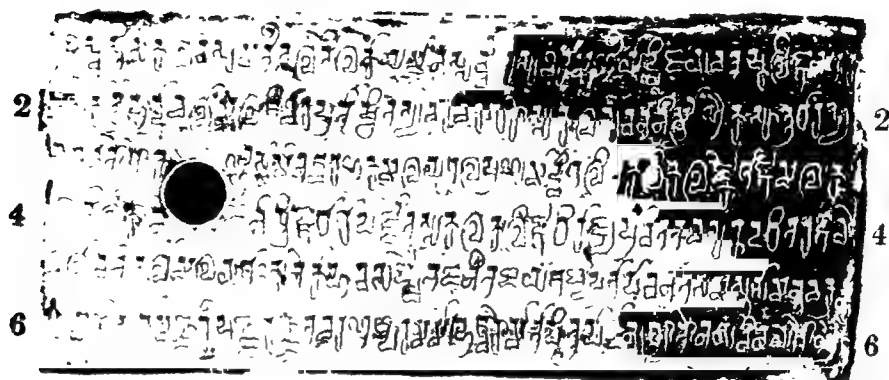
- 13 ṅāni bhavanti [|*] Pūrvvasyān=diśi Guṇahāri garttā tata(tō)⁶ dakṣiṇasyān=diśi sīmāntē⁷ s-aiva garttā paśchima(mē)na kadamba-
- 14 vṛikshaḥ tatas=chīṇchā-vṛikshaḥ nimba[s*] tata[ḥ*] sarjja-vṛikshaḥ taṭā[k-ā*]lyam timira-vṛikshaḥ tataḥ Pīśāch-ālī-kāraka-vṛikshaḥ
- 15 taṭāk-ālī-paśchima-sīmāntē taṭāk-āly-uttarē bhallātaka-vṛikshaḥ tata(tō) jambū-vṛikshaḥ Chullavēṇa

¹ From ink-impressions.² Denoted by a symbol.³ Read °māna-.⁴ Read -ōpārjita-sakala-.⁵ The predicate dattaḥ is understood here.⁶ [The reading is garta-dakṣiṇasyān=diśi.—B. C. C.]⁷ Here we have an example of tautology. We have to read either dakṣiṇasyān=diśi or simply dakṣiṇa-sīmāntē.

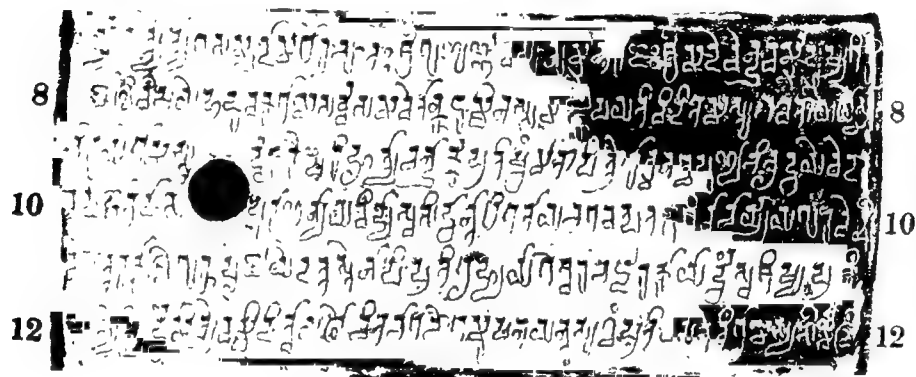
TWO EASTERN GANGA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM SUDAVA.

A.—PLATES OF DEVENDRAVARMAN; [GANGA] YEAR 184.

i.



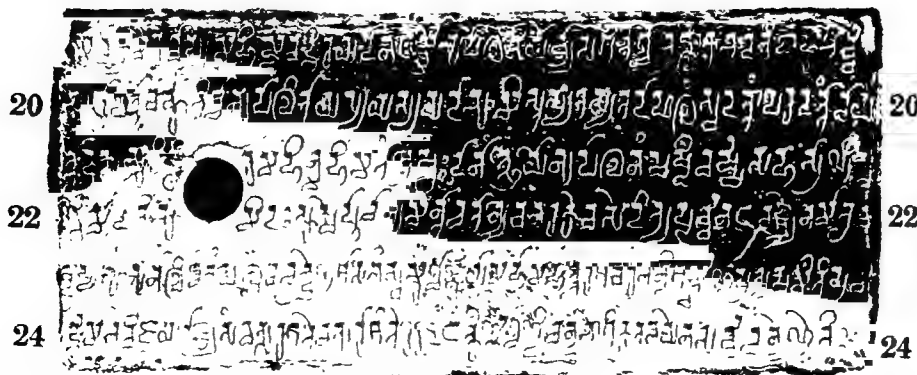
ii, a.



ii, b.



iii.



- 16 *uttara-simāntē Chullavēṇa-pūrvvāt śālmali-vṛikshaḥ tatō dvitīyō=pi śālmali-vṛikshaḥ*
kōśa-
- 17 *mbaḥ saptaparṇṇa(rṇṇō) vṛi(bṛi)hat-chhi(ch-chhi)lā tatō vālmika-sahitō jambu*
viṭapaḥ chiūchā-jambū[s] tata[s*] taṭāk-ālyā[m*] madhūka-*
- 18 *vṛikshaḥ tata[h*] pūrvvēṇa s=aiva Guṇahārī gartt=ēti [i*] bhavishyataś=cha*
rājñāḥ prajñāpayati [i] dharmma-kra-*

Third Plate.

- 19 *ma-vikramair=avāpya mahīm=bhavadbhir=aṃ dānadharmmō=nupālaniyō(yaḥ) [i*]*
Vyāsa-gītāś=ch=ātra ślōka(kā) bhavanti [i] ¹Bahubhī(bhi)r=vva-*
- 20 *sudhā dattā va(ba)hubhīś=ch=ānupālītī [i*] yasya yasya yadā bhūmis=tasya tasya*
tadā phalam(lam) [i] Sva-dattām para-dattām vā ya-*
- 21 *tnād=raksha Yudhisṭhīra [i*] mahi(hi)n=ma(m=ma)himatām śrēṣṭhaḥ(tha) dānāt.*
*chhrē(ch=chhrē)yō=nupālanaṃ(nam) [i*2] Shashṭim varshsha-sahasrāṇi sva-*
- 22 *rggē mōdati bhūmidah [i*] ākshēptā ch=ānumantā cha tāny=ēva narakē*
²vasēd=ity=Apūrvvanāṭa-vāśyē(vāśyē)na Mātricha-
- 23 *ndrasya sūnūnā [i*] likhitam Pallavachandrēṇa³ śāsanaṃ sva-mukh-ājñayā [i*]*
mahāmahattara-Śavarānandīśarmmaṇa[h]¹ pratyaksham=iti [i*] prava-*
- 24 *rddhamāna-vijaya-rājya-samvatsara-satē chatur-āsītē 100 80 4 [i*] utkīrṇatā*
Khaṇḍichandra-bhōgika²-tanayēna ³Sarvvachandrēṇ=ētiḥ(ti) [i]*
- 25 [i*]māpati⁷

B.—Plates of Anantavarman, son of Dēvēndravarman ; [Gaṅga] Year 204.

These are **three** sheets of copper, with their edges slightly raised in order to protect the writing. They measure 6" by 3½". Towards the proper right end of each plate there is a ring-hole through which the plates slide on to a thick **ring** of copper measuring 3½" in diameter. The ends of the ring were secured and soldered to a circular **seal** which measures 1½" in diameter. It bears in relief, on a counter-sunk surface, the figure of a bull, couchant to right, surmounted by a crescent. Below the bull there is a floral design. The **weight** of the plates together with the ring and the seal is 133 *tolas*. The first and the third

¹ Metre : *Ślōka (Anushtubh)* ; and in the following three verses.

² Read *vasēt* [i*3*] *iti*.

³ The same person was responsible for drafting the Chicacole (Year 183) and Trilingi (Year 192) plates of Dēvēndravarman.

⁴ He figures also as a witness in the Chicacole and Trilingi records of Dēvēndravarman. The Chicacole inscription, however, calls him a *mahattara*, for a note on which term, see above, Vol. XVIII, p. 78, f. n. 6. Dr. E. Hultzsch's explanation of the first component of his (the witness's) name (above, Vol. III, p. 134, f. n. 3) seems to be unwarranted ; for, Śavara need not always signify the savage tribe. In fact, Śavara is only another name of Śiva who is the object of devotion of the donor of our grant.

⁵ For a note on *bhōgika*, see above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 59 and 64 ; also Fleet, *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, *Gupta Inscriptions*, p. 100, f. n. 1.

⁶ He also engraved the Chicacole and Trilingi plates of Dēvēndravarman. The name of the father of the engraver of the latter grant has been misread (*I. H. Q.*, Vol. XI, p. 302) as *Chandrabhōgika*, whereas it is clearly *Khaṇḍichandra* on the facsimile. Cf. plate III (opp. p. 301), wrongly numbered there as 'Plate II (*Reverse*)'.

⁷ This was probably the name of the record-keeper (*akṣaśālin*) or some other official at his office. [The reading seems to be *Māgha-dī I.*—B. C. C.]

plates are inscribed on their inner faces only, while the second one contains writing on both of its sides. The inscription consists of thirty-two lines, each of the inscribed faces of the plates containing eight lines of writing.

The characters of the inscription belong to the Southern class of alphabets and resemble those of the Ganjām Plates of *Mahārāja Jayavarman*¹ and the Dhanantara Plates² of *Sāmantavarman*.³

The orthography of the inscription calls for no special remarks. It shows almost the same features as those that occur in the record of *Dēvēndravarman* dealt with under A above.

The language is Sanskrit. With the exception of one imprecatory verse, the whole of the inscription is in prose.

The inscription records the gift of the village of *Tālatthēra* situated in the district (*viśaya*) of *Krōṣṭukavarttanī*, to the learned *Brāhmaṇa* *Vishṇusōmachārya* who belonged to the *Pārāsara gōtra* and hailed from *Śrīngāṭikā-agrahāra* in the *Kāmarūpa viśaya*. The occasion for the gift was a marriage ceremony (*kanyādāna*). The donor of the grant was *Mahārāja Anantavarman*, son of *Mahārājādhirāja Dēvēndravarman*, who belonged to the family of the *Gaṅgas (Gāṅga-kula)*. The grant was made at the request of the king's brother, *Jayavarman*.

The date, given in words as well as in figures, is *śukla-trayōdaśī* of the month of *Mārgaśīrsha* of the Year 204 (of the *Gaṅga* era). The engraver was *Kuyāli*, the son of *Nādimachi*.

Of the localities mentioned, the *Krōṣṭukavarttanī-viśaya* is mentioned in some of the early and later *Gaṅga* inscriptions.⁴ It has been identified by Dr. E. Hultzsch⁵ with modern Chicacole. The *Kāmarūpa-viśaya* may not necessarily signify the famous country of the same name in Eastern India. Perhaps it is just another (hitherto unknown) district of ancient *Kaliṅga*. I am unable to identify at present both this and the *Śrīngāṭikā-agrahāra* as well as the village granted. Besides these, our inscription contains a medley of geographical names (chiefly those of hillocks, etc.) which marked the boundaries of the village of *Tālatthēra*. These, however, seem impossible to identify without a local investigation.

Palaeographically, our inscription is to be referred to the last quarter of the 7th or the first quarter of the 8th century A.D.

¹ Above Vol. XXIII, pp. 261-63 and plates.

² Above Vol. XV, pp. 275 ff. and plates.

³ Apart from the one under discussion, there is another grant of *Anantavarman*, son of *Dēvēndravarman*, (see *Annual Report on South Indian Epigraphy* for the year 1918-19, p. 14, No. 8 and *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. VIII, pp. 188-190 and plates). This record, however, does not seem to be genuine; for, the script appears to be too late for the reign of *Anantavarman*, and further the record, which abounds in gross mistakes in composition, is not dated.

⁴ E. g., *Utlām* plates of *Hastivarman* (Year 80), above, Vol. XVII, pp. 332 ff.; *Chicacole* plates of *Dēvēndravarman*, father of the donor of the present grant (Year 183), above, Vol. III, pp. 131 ff., etc.

⁵ Above, Vol. XVII, pp. 332 ff. [In fact, Dr. Hultzsch has only pointed out that the district of *Krōṣṭukavarttanī* also occurs in the *Chicacole* plates of *Dēvēndravarman* but he has not identified it with *Chicacole* as stated by Mr. Ghosh here as well as on p. 196 of Volume XXIV, above. The *viśaya* has, however, been identified by Mr. G. Ramadas with the country to the north of the river *Vamśadhārā* in the *Ganjām District* (*Journal of the Mythic Society*, Vol. XIV, p. 263).—Ed.]

TWO EASTERN GANGA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM SUDAVA.

B.—PLATES OF ANANTAVARMAN; [GANGA] YEAR 204.

i.

2 4 6 8
[Sanskrit text on copper plate i, left column]

ii, b.

18 20 22 24
[Sanskrit text on copper plate ii, b, right column]

ii, a.

10 12 14 16
[Sanskrit text on copper plate ii, a, left column]

iii.

26 28 30 32
[Sanskrit text on copper plate iii, right column]

TEXT.¹

First Plate

- 1 Ōm² Svasti [h*] Vijayavataḥ **Kaliṅganagarān**=Mahēndr-āchala-śikhara-pratishṭhita-ya
 2 bhagavatō Gōkarṇṇasvāminah prapñamād=vigalita-kali-kalanakāḥ sṛmad-Gā-
 3 ṅga-kula-tilakō nija-nistri[m*]-ōpārjita-Kaliṅg-ādhirāja[h*] pravīrata-cha-
 4 tur-udadhi-taraṅga-mālā-mēkhal-āvani-tal-āmala-yaśāḥ anēk-ā
 5 hava-samkshōbha-janita-jaya-śavda (l-da)[h*] pratāp-āvanata-samasta-sūmanta-cha-
 6 kra-chūdā-maṇi-prabhā-mañjarī-rañjita-charaṇō mātā-pitṛi-pād-ānuddhyātāḥ para-
 7 mamāhēśvara-śrī-mahārājādhirāja-Dēvēndravarmma-sūnur=mmahārāja-srīmā-
 8 n-**Anantavarmma** **Krōshṭukavarttanyā**[m*] **Tālatthērē** sarvva-samavētibū ku(n lu)-
 ṭumvi(mbi)na[h*] sa-

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 9 mājñāpayati [h*] Veditam-astu bhavatā[m*] yath=āya[m*] grāmō=smad=bhrātrā -rī-
³**Jayavarmma**-
 10 **pā** mātā-pittrōr=ātmanaś=cha puṇy-ābhivri(vṛi)ddhayē=bhyartthitēna mayā vēda-vēdāṅga-
 pā(pā)ragē-
 11 bhya[h*] **Kāmarūpa-vishaya-Śrīṅgāṭik**-āgrahāra-vāstavyēbhya[h*] Pārāsara-sagōt-
 trē[bhyō]
 12 **Vishṇusōmāchā**[r*]ya-pādēbhyō vivāha-samayē kanyā-dīnam=udaka-pū-
 13 rvvaṁ kṛitv=ā-chandr-ārka-pratishṭham sarvva-kara-bharān-muktā datṭas=tad-ēvaṁ
 vudhvā(buddhvā)
 14 yath-ōchita-bha(bhā)gabhōgam=upanayantaḥ sukham vasat-ēti [h*] adhunā sīmā-līṅgā-
 15 ni kramēṇa sthitāni I(Ai)śānyām Dēvaparvvata-śikharaḥ tat-pūrvvēṇa giri-vaṭa-va-
 16 na-rāji-⁴purusha-chchhāyay-āppachēru-maddhyēna Tālatthēra-Hēma-ṣiṅga-tādappara[h*]

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 17 ttrikūṭē⁵ suruli-vālmikāḥ pa(pā)rvvatyā(tya)-girivaṭaḥ dhātu-karaṅja[h*] Vasantapura-
 tṭi(tri)-
 18 kūṭē chiñchā-vana-rāji-paṭchāṅgula-vibhita[h*] Kōṅga-parvvatē pūrvv-vaṭirē giri-
 19 vaṭaḥ salla-pattharē kōśāmrah chiñchā vāpī-pūrvv-āliḥ parvvata-nīharē Dīmālli-
 20 tṭi(tri)kūṭaḥ pūrvvā dika(k) dakshīṇēna chiñchā-paṭkṭi[h*] Sōma-vātaka-t-ṭi(tri)kū-

¹ From ink-impressions.² Expressed by a symbol.³ He has been identified by Mr. S. N. Chakravarti (above, Vol. XXIII, p. 261) with *Mahārāja Jayavar-madēva* of a Ganjām grant and by Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar (*A List of Inscriptions of North India*, p. 386, f. n. 7) with a king of the same name mentioned in another inscription from Gauṇm (*I. H. Q.*, Vol. XII, pp. 491 ff.).⁴ "This description appears to presuppose the position of the sun at an angle of 45° over the horizon." (above, Vol. III, p. 134, f. n. 1).⁵ According to Dr. Hultzsch 'its meaning might be "the point at which three roads meet"'; see above, Vol. III, p. 20, f. n. 7.

- 21 tē rādhana-chiñchā-pankti[h*] Dhāra-vāṭaka-ṭri(tri)kūṭē chiñchā-vana-rāji-rāja-
 22 mārgga[h] chiñchā-vālmikah Kavāṭa-sandhi-vālmikah punah Kavāṭa-sandhi-tōra-vālmī-
 23 kah nikhāt[-ō]pala[h] nimva(mba)-vālmikah dakshinā dika(k)l paśchimēna Kapāṭa-
 saddhih(ndhih) ku-
 24 ḍuṅga-pank[t*]i[h*] vaku[la*?]-vana-rāji-taṭāk-āli[h*] sōma-vibhīta-sōma-kapittha-garttā
 chiñchā-

Third Plate.

- 25 drumah¹..... chiñchā-vana-rāji-sālmali Pipū-parvvata-sikharah a-
 26 ppachēruḥ saptaparṇa[h*] ṭri(tri)kūṭē chiñchā paśchimā dika(k)l uttarēṇa vēṇu-vana-rā-
 27 jī mōdakē rādhanaḥ Kōrkkaṇṭa-sikharē tādapparaḥ ṭri(tri)kūṭah sōma-druma[s=*]
 28 tataḥ parvvata-sikharēṇa Salavadēva-parvvata-sikhara iti [i*] a-
 29 ttra cha Vyāsa-gītāḥ [i*] Sva-dattām para-dattām=vā(ttām vā) yatnād=raksha Yudhi-
 shṭhi-
 30 ra [i*] mahī[m*] mahimatā[m*] śrēshṭha dānāch-chhē(chhrē)yō-nupālanam(nam) | ()
 mi(i)ty=ēvam=ādi prava-
 31 rddhamāna-vijaya-rājya-samvatsara-śata-dvayē Chatur-uttarē 204 Mārgaśir-
 shsha-śu-
 32 kla-paksha-ttrayōdaśyām dattam=idam śāsanam=utkirṇam Nādimachi-su(sū)nu-Kuyāli-
 likhinā [i*]

No. 6.—KAMAULI PLATE OF GOVINDACHANDRA, KING OF KANAUJ; V. S. 1184.

By R. K. GHOSHAL, M.A., CALCUTTA.

This plate belongs to what might be called a remarkable 'hoard' of twenty-five copper-plate inscriptions which were discovered in October 1892 in the village of **Kamauli**, near the confluence of the Barnā and the Ganges at Benares. They have been deposited in the Provincial Museum at Lucknow since July 1893. Three of this lot were studied by Mr. Arthur Venis² and the rest by Dr. F. Kielhorn.³ Of the present record Dr. Kielhorn did not give us the text, but contented himself with furnishing a brief notice.⁴ I now edit the inscription from the excellent ink-impressions kindly supplied by Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, Government Epigraphist for India. I am also indebted to Dr. Chakravarti for generously placing at my disposal an advance proof of a paper from his pen on another Gāhaḍavāla inscription, namely that of Jayachandra.⁵

This is a **single sheet** of copper measuring 1' 4" by 1' $\frac{5}{8}$ " and is engraved on one side only. At the top centre there is a **ring-hole**, about $\frac{1}{16}$ " in diameter, through which passed a ring. The circular **seal**, which connected the ends of the ring, measures a little over 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter. It bears on it in relief on a slightly counter-sunk surface the conventionalised

¹ After this follow some five or six syllables which are too obscure to admit of a definite reading.

² Above, Vol. II, pp. 347 ff.

³ *Ibid.*, Vol. IV, pp. 97 ff.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 111, No. I.

⁵ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 291 ff.

figure of Garuḍa, the mount of Viṣṇu, with the hands folded in devotion. From his wide-spread wings and the poise of his legs, he seems to be in the act of flying. Across the centre of the seal runs the **legend** *Śrīmaul-Gōvindhachandra(ndra)dīcaḥ*. And below it, in the lower semicircle, is engraved the figure of a conch-shell. The entire margin of the seal is rayed or rather serrated. The plate along with the ring and the seal weighs 359 *tolas*.

The plate contains twenty-five¹ lines of writing. The inscription is on the whole in a good state of preservation.

The **characters** are the usual Nāgarī of the 12th century A.D. Attention may however be called to some of their outstanding features. These are :—(1) initial *a* occurs in line 1, *ā* in ll. 1 and 20, *i* in ll. 8 and 9, *u* in l. 21; (2) examples of consonants *kh*, *gh* and *ṭh* are found in ll. 13, 9 and 25 respectively; (3) the signs for *dh*, *ch* and *v* are sometimes almost identical in form; cf. *vividha* (l. 12), *āśatīcha* (l. 14) and *vasumatī* (l. 5) respectively; (4) the letter *r* shows two forms, cf. e.g. *-āvarudha-* (l. 8) and *bhattāraka* (l. 10); (5) similarly the letter *g* has two forms, one of which is looped, cf. *Gōvindhachandraḥ* (l. 8) and *-galita-* (l. 7) respectively; (6) signs for conjuncts *dg* and *ṣg* are hardly distinguishable, e.g. *divaṇ=gatāsu* (l. 2) and *śrīmaul=Gāthīpur-* (l. 4); (7) *bh* shows two forms as in *bhāgabhōgakara* (l. 20); (8) dental *s* has also two forms, e.g. *āsīd* (l. 1) and *Sagur-āśībhīḥ* (l. 23); (9) medial *o* is composed in two different ways as in *akunṭh-ōṭ-āṭha-* (l. 1) and *sa-gartt-ōshurāḥ* (l. 15).

The **numerals** 1, 4, 5, and 8 are contained in the date in line 16. The sign indicating the continuation of an incomplete word at the end of a line consists of one vertical with a slanting stroke to its right.

Among **orthographical features** worth noticing are the following :—(1) both the letters *ḷ* and *v* are invariably indicated by the sign for the latter, (2) the consonants are usually doubled after *r*, (3) the letters *ś* and *s* have been used promiscuously in a number of cases, (4) *anusvāra* is used for a class nasal in many instances as in *śaṅkhaṁ* (l. 21), *vasumūdharaṁ* (l. 24), (5) final form of *m* occurs in *nijam* (l. 2), *phalam* and *vasumūdharaṁ* (l. 24).

The **language** is Sanskrit. There are altogether fifteen verses, composed in various metres, of which the first praises Viṣṇu and his consort Lakṣmī, the next eight describe the several kings of the dynasty coming before the donor of the grant, and the remaining six are imprecatory and benedictory ones. Barring these, the rest of the inscription is in prose. There are quite a number of errors, both of omission and of commission, in the text, which will be noted in their proper places.

The **inscription** is one of the *Paramabhāṭṭāraka*, *Muhūrājādhirāja Paramēśvara*, *Paramamūhēśvara*, *Aśvapati-Gujapati-Narapati-Rājataru-ādhipati Gōvindhachandra*, and records that, on the **Manvādi**, **Friday**, the **full-moon tithi** of **Kārttika** of the (Vikrama) **Year 1184**, after bathing in the Ganges at Vārāṇasī, he made a gift of the village of **Bhānī**, situated in the *pattalā* called **Maḍavattala**, together with its *pāṭakas*, to the *Muhūpurōhita* **Jāgūśarman**, son of the *Dikṣita* Vilhā, and grandson of the *Dikṣita* Purushōttama. The donee belonged to the Bandhula *gōtra* having the triple *pravara* of Bandhula-Aghamarshaṇa-Viśvāmitra.² The village was given subject to payment of taxes called *bhāgabhōgakara*, *pravāṇikara* and *kūṭaka*³, but inclusive of certain fundamental rights such as mining, fishing, *etc.* The gift was announced formally in the presence of a number of high officials of the State. The writer of the grant was *Thakkura Viśvarūpa*.

¹ Or rather twenty-six, the last consisting of but six letters.

² He belonged further to the Vājasaneyā *śākhā* (cf. e. g., above, Vol. IV, p. 103, text l. 20; p. 107, text l. 18, *etc.*).

³ [In fact, these taxes were to be paid to the donee. Cf. above, Vol. IV, p. 99.—B.C.C.]

Inscriptions mentioning Gövindachandra known so far (including the Basāhi,¹ Kamauli² and Rāhan³ plates which speak of him as *Mahārājaputra*) range over a period of Vikrama Samvat 1161-1211 (or A.D. 1104-1154), i.e. exactly fifty years.⁴ The present record of Gövindachandra belongs to V. S. 1184. There is another record of the same king which also is dated in the same year.⁵

The inscription under discussion does not furnish us with any facts that are already not known except that it refers to one or two new place-names. The genealogy of the donor is given once in verses 2-9 and again in ll. 10-12, this time with the exclusion of Yaśovigraha and Mahichandra, the first two members of the Gāhaḍavāla family. Mahichandra's son was Chandradēva who is claimed to have acquired the kingdom of Gādhipura (i.e., Kanyakubja) by the prowess of his own arm and to have protected 'the holy *tīrthas* of Kāsi, Kuśika, Uttara-Kōsala and Indrasthāna after he had acquired them'. The Sēt-Mahēt inscription of Vidyādhara,⁶ which is dated in V.S. 1176, however, as suggested by Dr. H. C. Ray,⁷ somewhat tends to undermine the former claim by reason of the fact that it speaks of two persons, of Rāshtrakūṭa origin, named Gōpāla and Madana, ruling about this time in and about Kanyakubja. In fact, one of them, Gōpāla, is actually called *Gādhipurādhipa*. It seems that Chandradēva, as claimed in the Basāhi plate⁸ (V. S. 1161), after the death of his two mighty contemporaries, viz., kings Bhōja⁹ and Karṇa,¹⁰ found the time opportune and the field open to extend his influence in the Ganges-Jumna *doāb* by establishing his capital at the most fiercely-contested-for city in the whole history of mediaeval India. Shortly afterwards, however, the imperial capital seems to have been lost to the Gāhaḍavāla sovereign, following, presumably, an expedition led by the Rāshtrakūṭa ruler of Kanauj, probably Gōpāla (*Gādhipurādhipa*) of the Sēt-Mahēt inscription. Madana, the son and successor of Gōpāla, appears however to have soon lost this advantage once for all.

Indeed, Kanyakubja seems to have changed hands again during (the otherwise uneventful) rule of Madanapāla; for as has been recorded in the Basāhi and Kamauli plates, *mahārājaputra* Gövindachandra made in those years (V.S. 1161-62) gifts of villages situated in the Jīvatī-pattalā which again was situated in the Pañchāla-dēśa. And Kanyakubja, as is well-known, was the first city of the Pañchāla country. These two records therefore mark the re-passage of Kanauj into the hands of the Gāhaḍavāla kings who from now on held the capital to themselves till almost the end of their dynasty. The Rāshtrakūṭa interregnum in Kanyakubja (during the regime of Gāhaḍavāla kings) may therefore be said to have lasted

¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 101 ff.

² Above, Vol. II, pp. 358 ff.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVIII, pp. 14 ff.

⁴ For a list and *résumé* of all known inscriptions (except one or two that have been discovered latterly) of Gövindachandra, see H. C. Ray, *The Dynastic History of Northern India: Early Mediaeval Period*, Vol. I, pp. 515-528.

⁵ Viz., Bhadavanā grant (above, Vol. XIX, pp. 291 ff.—'Tālā Inscription', D. R. Bhandarkar, *A List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, p. 266). Dr. Bhandarkar's suggestion (*ibid.*, f. n. 6) that the grant is spurious has been deemed unconvincing by the Editor (*ibid.*).

⁶ Bhandarkar's *List*, No. 204. Vidyādhara's father Janaka was according to this inscription the minister (*sachiva*) of Gōpāla.

⁷ *Dynastic Hist.*, Vol. I, p. 507.

⁸ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 101 ff.

⁹ He has been variously identified with his famous Paramāra or Gurjara-Pratihāra namesake (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 101 ff.; H. C. Ray, *Dynastic History*, Vol. I, p. 507, f. n. 1).

¹⁰ Generally identified with the great Kalachuri king Lakshmi-Karṇa.

roughly from 1095 to 1105 A.D., approximately ten years.¹ It was perhaps during this interval that the Gāhaḍavālas moved on temporarily to some other city, possibly as suggested by Dr. V. A. Smith² and then by Dr. H. C. Ray,³ to Benares or some region near to it.

Gōvindachandra, the donor of the present record, succeeded his father Madanapāla on the throne. He is described here as one who 'by his creeper-like long arms secured the elephant which was the new(*ly acquired*) kingdom' (*navarājya*). This latter term has been taken by Dr. N. P. Chakravarti⁴ to refer to the kingdom to which Gōvindachandra succeeded as a matter of course after his father Madanapāla. On this same expression Dr. Kielhorn observed⁵ that "the sovereignty over Kanyakubja is described as having been newly acquired, even when Gōvindachandra, the grandson of Chandradēva, was reigning." This circumstance in our opinion finds a satisfactory explanation in the fact (suggested above) that it was Gōvindachandra who re-established the supremacy of his line over Kanyakubja and the territories depending on it.

It was Gōvindachandra again who, significantly enough, assumed, as in the present instance, first of all the members of his family,⁶ the ambitious titles of *śrīpati-gajapati-narapati-rāja-tray-ādhipati* originally used by the Kalachuri kings of Dāhala from Lakshmī-Karṇa onwards. This fact acquires an added significance from the evidence furnished by the Bengal Asiatic Society's plates⁷ of Gōvindachandra (V. S. 1177). This inscription records transference of the gift of a village which was originally granted to another person by the Kalachuri king Yaśaḥ-Karṇa, son and successor of Lakshmī-Karṇa. It seems therefore to have been rightly held by Dr. N. P. Chakravarti⁸ that, taking advantage of the favourable turn of events following the death of Lakshmī-Karṇa, Gōvindachandra "wrested a part of the Kalachuri kingdom, probably from Yaśaḥkarṇa himself, and to mark the occasion assumed the *birudas* hitherto used by Kalachuri kings".⁹

Of the localities mentioned, Kāśī, Uttarakōśala and Indrasthāna have been identified¹⁰ with the present Benares. Ayōdhyā and Indraprastha (or Delhi) respectively. Kuśika, Gādhipura and Kanyakubja have generally been identified with one and the same place, *viz.*, modern Kanauj. The village granted and the *pattulū* in which it was situated I am unable to identify.

¹ The earliest date for Chandradēva known so far is 1090 A.D. (*cf.* his Chandrāvati plate, V. S. 1148, above, Vol. IX, pp. 302 ff.). Taking him to be a contemporary of the Rāshtrakūṭa king Gōpāla (for whose son Madana's reign we have a date in 1119-20 A.D. as recorded in the Sū-Mahēṣ inscription and who has been rightly supposed to be a feudatory of Gōvindachandra; *cf.* H. C. Ray, *op. cit.*, p. 507, f. n. 5), we may reasonably allow him an uninterrupted reign of five years before the imperial capital passed on, though for a short time, to the Rāshtrakūṭas.

² *Oxford History of India*, 1923, p. 195.

³ *Op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 507.

⁴ Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 292.

⁵ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XV, p. 6.

⁶ Chandradēva, the grandfather of Gōvindachandra, is once (above, Vol. IX, p. 324) referred to as *narapati*, a title which (among others) was also assumed by the Kalachuri king Yaśaḥ-Karṇa, who has been supposed by Dr. Ray (*op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 788) to be a contemporary of Chandradēva. It has indeed been suggested by Dr. Ray (*op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 508) that the assumption of such a title by Chandradēva may indicate some conflict with the Kalachuri kings. In fact, as has been pointed out by Dr. Ray, Chandradēva claims (above, Vol. XIV, p. 193) to have defeated a *narapati-gajapati*, titles which are assumed by Yaśaḥ-Karṇa himself.

⁷ *J. A. S. B.*, Vol. XXXI, pp. 123 ff.

⁸ Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 292.

⁹ There is also an interesting numismatic evidence which goes to support the contention that Gōvindachandra extended his dominions at the expense of the Kalachuri rulers of Dāhala (H. C. Ray, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 531).

¹⁰ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XV, p. 8, f. n. 46.

The date of the record is given, both in words and in decimal figures, as Manvādi, Friday, the full-moon *tithi* of Kārttika of the year 1184 and "regularly corresponds, for Vikrama-Samvat 1184 expired, to Friday, the 21st October A.D. 1127".¹

TEXT.²

[Metres : Vv. 1, 3, 10, 11, 13-15, *Anuṣṭubh* ; v. 2, *Indravajrā* ; vv. 4, 7, *Śāriūlavikrīḍā* ; vv. 5, 6, 8, *Vasantatilakā* ; v. 9, *Drutavilambita*, v. 12, *Śālinī*.]

- 1 Ōm Ōm³ Svasti || Akunṭh-ōtkanṭha-Vaikunṭha-kanṭha-pīṭha-luṭhat-karaḥ | saṁrambhāḥ sur-at-ārambhē sa Śriyaḥ śrēyasē=stu-vaḥ || [1*] Āsīd-Āsītadyuti-vamśa-jātaḥ(jāta-)kshamāpā-
- 2 la-mālāsu divaṁ=gatāsu | sākshād=Vivasvān-iva bhūri-dhāmnā nāmnā Yaśōvigraha ity=udāraḥ || [2*] Tat-sutō=bhūn=**Mahichandra**⁴=chandra-dhāma-nibhan=nijam | yēn=ā-
- 3 pa(pā)ram=akūshā(pā)ra-pārē vyāpāritam yaśaḥ || [3*] Tasy=ābhūt=tanayō nay-aika-raśi-(si)kaḥ krānta-dvishan-maṇḍalō vidhvast-ōddhata-vīra-yōdha-timiraḥ śrī-**Chadra(ndra)-dēvō**⁵ nripaḥ | yēn=ōḍāratara-⁶
- 4 pratāpa-samit-āsēsha-praj-ōpadravaṁ śrīmad=Gādhipur-ādhirājyam=asaman=dōr-vvikra-mēṇ=ārjitaṁ || [4*] Tīrthāni **Kāsi-Kuśik-Ōttarakōsal-Ēndrasthānīyakāni** paripā-
- 5 layat=ābhigamya | hēm=ātma-tulyam=anisa(sa)n=dadatā dvijēbhyō yēn=āṅkitā⁷ vasu-matī śataśas=tulābhiḥ || [5*] Tasy=ātmajō **Madanapāla** iti kshitindra-chūḍāmaṇi⁸-
- 6 r=vvijayatē nija-gōtra-chandraḥ | yasy=ābhishēka-kalāś-ōllasitaiḥ payōbhiḥ prakshālitaṁ kali-rajāḥ-pāṭalan=dharitryāḥ || [6*] Yasy=āsīd=vijaya-prayāṇa-samayē tuṅg-ā-
- 7 chal-ōchchais-chalan-mādyat-kumbhi-pada-kram-āsama-bhara-bhrasya(śya)n-mahī-maṇḍalē | chūḍaratna-vibhinna-tālu-galita-styān-āsig-udbhāsitaḥ ⁹Śēshaḥ pēsha-vasā(śā)d=iva kshaṇam=asau krō-
- 8 ḍē nilin-ānanaḥ || [7*] Tasmād=ajāyata nij-āyata-vā(bā)hu-valli-va(ba)ndh-āvaruddha-nava-rājya-gajō narēndraḥ | sāndr-āmrīta-drava-muchā[m*] prabhavō gavām yō **Gōvinda-chandra** iti cha-
- 9 dra(ndra) iv=āmvu(mbu)rāsē(śē)ḥ || [8*] Na katham=apy=alabhanta raṇa-kshamāns=tisṛishu dikshu gajān=atha vajriṇaḥ | kakubhi va(ba)bhrāmur=Abhramuvallabha-pratibhaṭā iva yasya ghaṭā-gajāḥ || [9*] Sō=
- 10 yaṁ samasta-rāja-chakra-saṁsēvita-charaṇaḥ |¹⁰ paramabhāṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja-parama-(mē)śvara-paramamāhēśva[ra*]-nija-bhuj-ōpārjji[ta*]-śrī-Kanyakuṅj(bj)-ādhīpatya - śrī-Chandradēva-pād-ānu¹¹-

¹ Above, Vol IV, p. 111.

² From the ink-impression kindly supplied by the Government Epigraphist for India.

³ Expressed by a symbol. [The first symbol answers to *siddham* or *siddhi=astu*. See above, Vol. XVII, p. 352.—Ed.]

⁴ Here follows a sign for continuation of the word.

⁵ Also called Mahiāla (*e. g. Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 101 ff.), Mahiyāla (*e. g. above*, Vol. II, p. 359, text, l. 2), and Mahitāla (*e. g. Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVIII, pp. 14 ff.). In some records (*e. g., Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 15, text, l. 1), it is he who stands at the head of his line instead of Yaśōvigraha.

⁶ He is also known as Chandradītya (above, Vol. XIV, p. 194) and once, simply as Chandra (above, Vol. IX, p. 324).

⁷ The conjunct *āki* in this word seems rather imperfectly engraved on the impression.

⁸ Dr. Kielhorn thinks (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVII, p. 140, n. 45; *Ibid.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 11, n. 14, etc.) that this phrase should more properly be read as *Śēshaḥ saisha-vaśād=iva*.

⁹ This mark of punctuation is unnecessary.

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- 11 dhyāta-paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja-paramēśvara-paramamā[hē*]śva[ra*]-śrī-Madanapālādēva-pād-ānudyāta-paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja-paramēśvara-paramamā-hēśva-
- 12 r-āśvapati-gajapati-narapati-rāja-tray-ādhipati-vividha-vidyā-vichāra-Vāchaspati-śrīmad-Gōvindhachandradēvō vijayī **Maḍavattala**-¹ pattaḷāyām sa-pāṭaka-**Bhānī**-² gra(grā)manivāsi-
- 13 nō nikhila-janapadān-upagatān=api cha rāja-rājñī-yuvarāja-mantri-purōhita-pratihāra-sēnāpati-bhāṇḍāgārik-ākshapaṭalika-bhishag-naipi(mi)ttik-āntahpurika-dūta-kari-tu-
- 14 raga-pattan-ākarasthāna-gōkul-ādhikāri-purushān=ājñāpayati vō(bō)dhayaty=ādisati cha yathā l viditam=astu bhavatām=upari-likhita-grāmaḥ sa³-jala-sthalaḥ sa-lōha-lavaṇ-ā-
- 15 karaḥ [sa*]maśy(tsy)-ākaraḥ sa-gartt-ōsharaḥ sa-madhūk-āmra-vana-vāṭikā-viṭapa-tṭiṇa-yūti-gōchara-paryanta[h*] s-ōrddhā(rddhv-ā)dhaś-chatur-āghāṭa-visu(śu)ddhaḥ sa(śva)-sīmā-paryantaś=chatur-aśīty-adhika-śat-aikā-
- 16 daśa-samvatsarē Kārttikē māsi śukla-pakṣhē paurṇimāyām Manvādau Śukra-dinē=nikē=pi **Samvat 1184** Kārttika-sudi 15 Śukrē śrīmad-Vārāṇasyām śrī-Gaṅgāyām snātva vidhivan=mantra-dē-
- 17 va-muni-manuja-bhūta-pitri-gaṇāms=tarpayitvā timira-paṭala-pāṭana-paṭu-mahasam=Ushṇarōchisham=upasthāy=Aushadhipatisa(śa)kalasēkharam samabhyarchya tribhuvana-trātur=Vāsudēva-
- 18 sya pūjām vidhāya prachura-pāyasēna havishā Havirbhujam hutvā mātā-pitrōr=ātmanaś=cha puṇya-yaśō-vivṛidha(ddha)yē tad=ētat=parama-sra(śra)ddhayā samyatibhūya gōkarnṇa-kuśa-la-
- 19 tā-pūta-kara-tal-ōdaka-pūrvam=asmābhir=Vadhu(Bandhu)la-gōtrāya Varṇadhu(Bandhu)l-Āghama(rsha)ṇa-Viśvāmitra-triḥ(tri)-pravarāya dikshita⁴-śrī-Purushōttama⁵-pautrāya dikshita-śrī-Vilhā⁶-putrāya mahāpurō-
- 20 hita-śrī-Jāgūsa(śa)rmmanō⁷ ā-chandr-ārkkam śāsanikṛitya pradattō matvā yathā-diyamāna-bhāgabhōgakara-pravaṇikara-kūṭaka-prabhṛiti-samast-ādāyān=ājñāvidhēyibhūya
- 21 dāsyatha [10*] Bhavanti ch=ātra puṇya-ślōkāḥ || Bhūmim yaḥ pratigrihnā(hṇā)ti yas-tu bhūmim prayachchhati l ubhau tau puṇya-karmāṇau niyatau(tam) [śva]rgga-gāminau || [10*] Śāmkham bhadr-āsanaṁ chchha(chha)-

¹ Dr. Kielhorn doubtfully read this word (above, Vol. IV, p. 111) as 'Madavala (?)'. But there is a trace of *ta* (rather weakly engraved) between *va* and *la*. Compare this *ta* with the same sign in *pattalāyām*.

² This word was hesitatingly read by Dr. Kielhorn (above, Vol. IV, p. 111) as 'Rāri (?)'. Unfortunately the two letters have been engraved in a slovenly manner and in a smaller size. It seems, however, possible to read the second letter as *nī*. As regards the first it may well be a disjointed *pā*, or as I have surmised, *bhā*.

³ For a note on the terms *jala-sthala*, etc., see *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LI (1922), pp. 73 ff.

⁴ "This word is explained to denote persons who or whose ancestors have performed a great sacrificial ceremony, such as a *vyōtishṭoma*." (Above, Vol. IV, p. 98, f. n. 7.)

⁵ He is also called *Purāsa*. (Above, Vol. IV, p. 103, text l. 21; p. 107, text l. 18; p. 109, text l. 19, etc.)

⁶ He is otherwise known as *Vilhāka* (above, Vol. II, p. 360, text l. 13) and *Vedaśarman* (above, Vol. IV, p. 121, text l. 26).

⁷ He is apparently the same as *Purōhita* Jāguka who served under Gōvindhachandra's father Madanapāla (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 101 ff.). No less than ten copper-plate inscriptions from Kamauli record grants made in favour of this high priest. He is variously called *Mahādikshita* *Mahāpurōhita* Jāgū (above, Vol. IV, p. 117, l. 18 and p. 120, No. P.), Jāgāka (*ibid*, p. 103, l. 21) and Jāgūka (*ibid*, p. 107, l. 19). He is also once (*ibid*, p. 126, No. T.) referred to as *Yājñavalkya* in an inscription of Jayachandra.

- 22 tram var-āśvā vara- vāhaṇā(nā)ḥ | bhūmi-dānasya chihṇāni phalam=ētat=Purandara || [11*]
 Sarvvān=ētān=bhāvinaḥ pārthivēndrā[n*] bhūyō bhūyō yāchatē Rāmabhadraḥ || (|)
 sāmānyō=
- 23 yaṁ dharmmasētur¹=nṛpāṇām kālē kālē pālanīyō bhavadbhiḥ || [12*] Va(Ba)hubhir=
 vasudhā dattā rājabhiḥ Sagar-ādibhiḥ | yasya yasya yadā bhūmis=tasya tasya tadā²
- 24 phalam || [13*] Sva-dattām para-dattām vā yō harēta vasumdhārām | sa viśṭhāyām
 kṛimir=bhūtva pitṛibhiḥ saha majjati || [14*] Gām=ekām hiraṇyam=ekām cha³ bhū-
 mi(mē)r=apy=ekam=aṅgulaṁ |
- 25 haran=narakam=āpnōti yāvad=āha(hū)ta-saṁplavam(vam) || [15*] Ṭhakkura-śrī- Viśva-
 rūpēṇa tāmvrā(mra)paṭṭō=yam likhitam=idam⁴ nṛp-ājūṇay=ēti | Maṅgalaṁ mahā-śrīḥ ||⁵
- 26 ||
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NO. 7.—BARIPADA MUSEUM PLATE OF DEVANANDADEVA.

BY KRISHNA CHANDRA PANIGRAHI, M.A.

This copper-plate was in possession of the Raja and Ruling Chief of the Dhenkanal State, Orissa. In 1930 the late Pandit Tarakeswar Ganguly of Calcutta got it from him and deposited it in the Archaeological Museum at Baripada in the Mayurbhanj State. I am thankful to Mr. P. Acharya, the State Archaeologist of Mayurbhanj, for kindly allowing me to edit it.

It is a **single plate** inscribed on both sides; the first side containing seventeen lines and the second eighteen lines of writing. When handed over to me, it was found to have been covered with a thin coat of verdigris and consequently some portions of the writing were quite illegible. Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra, the Assistant Superintendent for Epigraphy, who had the opportunity to examine the plate, very kindly arranged its cleaning by chemical treatment and also sent me an excellent set of inked impressions. To Dr. Chhabra I also owe a number of useful suggestions in preparing this article. The transcript given by me is based on the original as well as on the inked impressions. The inscription is, on the whole, in good preservation except that the first and the last lines of the first side and the first four and the last two lines of the second side have been very much corroded. The letters are deep-cut and well-formed. The plate measures 11"×6". It has a seal attached to its left-hand side, which measures 2¾" in diameter, resembles in form a full-blown lotus exhibiting two rows of petals and contains a medallion superimposed on the inner row of the same. Inside the medallion, the inner diameter of which is about 1¾", occur in relief the figures of a couchant humped bull, of a crescent with a star almost touching its hump and of a club-shaped object below its mouth, while underneath the bull there runs in one line the legend *śrī-Dēvānandadēvasya* underlined with two parallel straight lines, and at the bottom there occurs, also in relief, the figure of an expanded lotus flower. The plate together with the seal weighs about 143 tolas.

¹ The technical word *dharmasētu* occurs for the first time in some of the inscriptions of Śātavāhana kings from Nasik (cf. above, Vol. VIII, p. 60, l. 11; p. 65, l. 13, etc.). According to Dr. E. Senart (*ibid.*, p. 64), "*Dharmasētu*, in religious phraseology, especially that of inscriptions till a rather recent period, denotes figuratively a foundation as 'a bridge, a dam of merit', which enables its author to get over the ocean of *samsāra*'."

² This *danda* is unnecessary.

³ This line of the verse has one syllable in excess. Read *gām=ekām svarṇam=ekām cha* as elsewhere.

⁴ Read either *tāmrapaṭṭō=yam likhitō* or *tāmrapaṭṭē likhitam=idam*.

⁵ Here follows what appears to be a trisyllabic mystic formula, cited thrice, the reading and meaning of which I am unable to offer.

The **characters** belong to the northern type of alphabet and closely resemble in form those of the Ganjām plate of Daṇḍimahādēvi of the year 180¹. We have here examples of the initial vowels *ā* in *Ārchchanāsa*, l. 29; *i* in *iti*, l. 9; and *ai* in *Airāvatta*, l. 24; as well as of the consonants *jh* in *-jhaṅkāraṇī*, l. 4; *dh* in *gḍdhā*, l. 22. The letter *n* shows two different forms, as in *n-aiva*, l. 3; and in *vanē*, l. 4. No distinction has been made in the form of medial *u* and *ū*, as may be exemplified by the words *sphurita-* and *sūra-*, l. 5, while the medial *u* is represented by two different signs as is seen in *surisuddha-*, l. 6. In many instances the superscript *r* is not clearly marked.

The **language** is Sanskrit. The record is composed partly in verse and partly in prose. The text contains some mistakes of spelling as well as of grammar, which have been pointed out in their proper places. As regards **orthography**, the following peculiarities deserve notice: (1) A consonant after *r* is usually reduplicated; (2) *s* has been used for *ś* in many places, e.g. in *surisuddha-*, l. 6 and *-rachanaś=chandr-*, l. 15; (3) *n* has been employed for *anusvāra* in *tīvrāṇśumālī*, l. 11; (4) *b* is represented by the sign for *v*; (5) in some cases *sandhi* has not been observed, e.g. *śrīmān=Jayānanda*, ll. 2-3, (6) sign of *avagraha* has been used in *yō=’blūt*, l. 8.

The record does not contain any date, but the Talmul plate of Dhruvānandadēva², having the introductory portion identical with that of the present one, records a date at the end of the inscription. Mr. A. Banerji-Sastri, the editor of this grant, has not been able to give the correct reading of the text. His reading of the date is also erroneous. The record has been re-edited and further commented upon by Mr. N. Tripathi³, but he has also failed to interpret the date. He first explained the symbols for the date as representing $200+80+3(=283)$, and later as $200+80+1(=281)$. Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar has given this date as the year 293 and has suggested to refer it to the Harsha era⁴. If this view is accepted, and there is no reason to reject it, the date in question would correspond to A.D. 899, which would roughly be the date of the present inscription as well.

The inscription opens with a description of the place of issue of the grant, the name of which has inadvertently been omitted by the scribe but may be ascertained from the Talmul plate of Dhruvānandadēva as being **Jayapura**. Then the lines 2-24, mostly composed in verse, give a genealogical account, beginning with Jayānanda and ending with Dēvānanda, in course of which the qualities and the achievements of the rulers have been poetically described. The **object** of the inscription has, then, been set forth, which was to record the grant by the king Dēvānanda of the village Lambēva⁵, situated in the *vishaya* of *Pōtōḍā* in the *Airāvatta maṇḍala*, to one *Bhaṭṭa* Brahmadhara, son of Śaktidhara, son of Ādityadhara, who belonged to the Kāṇva-*śākhā* of the White Yajurveda, and to the Kṛishṇātrēya *gōtra*, and was a member of the *Bhaṭṭa* community of Jambama-Nārāyaṇapura, originally hailing from Puṇḍravarddhana.

As to the family of the donor, it is called Nandōdbhava⁶ or simply Nanda, as may be inferred from the terms *Nand-ōdbhava-vamśa*, and *Nanda-kula* occurring in l. 2 and l. 17 respectively.

¹ Above, Vol. VI, pp. 137 ff.

² *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XV, pp. 87 ff. and plates; Bhandarkar's *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, No. 2043.

³ *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVI, pp. 457 ff. and Vol. XVII, pp. 196-7.

⁴ Bhandarkar's *List*, No. 2043.

⁵ [See below p. 79, n. 5.—Ed.]

⁶ A similar instance is found in the name Śailōdbhava.

Mr. Tripathi concludes from these expressions (also occurring in Dhruvānanda's plate) that the family of Jayānanda was an offshoot of the Imperial Nandas of Magadha¹. But this conclusion does not seem to have been based on sufficient data. What seems to be probable is that the suffix *ānanda* was peculiar to the names of this family as *tuṅga*, *kara*, *stambha* and the like were peculiar to the names of some other royal families of Orissa. And, as these suffixes gave distinct names to these families, the suffix *ānanda* did the same in the case of the royal family of Jayānanda. The confusion between *nanda* and *ānanda* seems to have been one as between *kara* and *ākara*, illustrated in the case of the Kara family of Orissa, in which the second component part of some names is not *kara*, but *ākara*, e.g. Śubhākara. This Nanda family of Orissa is not known from any other source except from the Talmul plate of Dhruvānandadēva referred to above, and the present record. With the help of the genealogies given in these two charters, we can construct the following genealogical table of this family :—

Jayānanda
|
Parānanda
|
Śivānanda
|
Dēvānanda, surnamed Vilāsatuṅga.
|
Dhruvānanda, surnamed Vilāsatuṅga.

It should be noted in this connection that though the relation between the first four members has been specifically mentioned as that of father and son, the same between Dēvānanda and Dhruvānanda is not clear from their records. At any rate, that Dhruvānanda was a successor of Dēvānanda is evident from his plate which mentions his name after that of Dēvānanda².

As has been said above, the name of **Jayapura**, the description of which occurs in the opening part of the inscription, has probably been omitted through the carelessness of the scribe.

¹ *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVI, p. 469.

² [Mr. Panigrahi seems to have mixed up the genealogies given in the two records. Moreover, the present inscription apparently mentions two Dēvānandas, while Mr. Panigrahi obviously takes these two as referring to one and the same person. Below are given, for the sake of comparison, the genealogical lists as supplied by the Talmul plate and the present inscription.]

Talmul Plate

Jayānanda
|
Parānanda
|
Śivānanda
|
Dēvānanda
|
Vilāsatuṅga-Dhruvānanda.

Baripada Museum Plate

Jayānanda
|
Parānanda
|
Śivānanda
|
Dēvānanda (I)
|
Vilāsatuṅga-Dēvānanda (II).

While Dhruvānanda is said to be *Paramasaugata*, Dēvānanda (II) is stated to be *Paramamāhēśvara*; otherwise their descriptions agree word for word. The apparent relation between Dhruvānanda and Dēvānanda (II) is that of brothers, one professing the Buddhist faith, the other adhering to the Śaiva creed, though the seals of both of them bear a *Nandī* emblem. In this case, we will have to admit that Dēvānanda (II) is called after his father's name, which is improbable though not impossible, considering the case of five Maitraka kings of the name of Śilāditya (III—VII), of whom each succeeding one was a son of the preceding one; see Bhandarkar's *List*, p. 394,—B. C. C.]

This place, presumably the capital of the Nanda family of Orissa, has been identified with Jajpur¹ of the Cuttack district by Dr. A. Banerji-Sastri and with Jeypur or Jeypore², the headquarters of a big estate of the same name in the newly constituted Koraput district of Orissa, by Mr. N. Tripathi. Both of these identifications are open to serious objections. As *Jajpur* cannot be regarded as a corruption of *Jayapura*, and as it was known as *Virajā*³ in the eighth or ninth century A. D., when it was held as capital by the Bhauma kings of Orissa, the identification proposed by Dr. Banerji-Sastri should be ruled out of consideration. As regards Mr. Tripathi's proposed identification, though no objection can be taken to it from phonetic point of view, several considerations prevent us from taking it as conclusive. On an examination of the place-names mentioned in this grant and others, it is revealed that *Airāvaṭṭa maṇḍala* which included the *vishaya* of *Pōtōḍā* has been mentioned in the Talmul plate of Dhruvānandadeva and also in the Balijhari plates of Uddyōtakēśari Mahābhavagupta⁴. This *maṇḍala* must be taken to have comprised a tract of land along the Mahānadi river in view of the fact that the giṭ village Kōntalaṇḍā, mentioned in the last-named charter, has pointedly been spoken of as situated on the bank of that river. So, if Jayapura is to be taken identical with Jeypur of the Koraput District, we have to suppose that the territories ruled over by Dēvānanda and Dhruvānanda extended far to the south-west of the Mahānadi river on the north. But their dominion over such vast territories is not warranted by their records which do not even give the title of *mahārāja* before their names, nor mention a single conquest to their credit. They must have been feudatories of some paramount power in Orissa as is indicated by their titles *Paramabhaṭṭāraka Samadhigatapañchamahāsabla Mahāsāmāntādhipati*. Besides, Jayānanda, the first known ruler of the family, probably the founder of the dynasty, has been credited with the conquest of the whole of Gōndrama, which, as will be shown below, meant the hilly tracts now ruled over by the feudatory chiefs of Orissa, but never any tract along the Bay of Bengal. The last but not the least important is the fact that if these plates of the Nanda family were issued from Jeypur of the Koraput district, it is rather strange that the southern influence so conspicuous on the copper-plates issued from Kaliṅganagara and Śvētaka should have been completely absent from the palaeography of their records. I should, therefore, suggest the identification of Jayapura of our records with Jaipur, a village situated in the Dhenkanal State from which and from the adjoining Narasinghpur State all the three copper-plate grants mentioning the name of *Airāvaṭṭa maṇḍala* are reported to have hailed. Jayapura, as its name suggests, was possibly founded by Jayānanda, the first ruler of the Nanda family.

Among the other geographical names occurring in the inscription, *Gōndrama*, which is also mentioned in four other copper-plate inscriptions of Orissa⁵, is always found in conjunction with *sakala* 'all', and in one plate with *ashtādaśa* 'eighteen'. It is thus clear that it was a geographical expression meaning a group of eighteen tracts of land and seems to be the same as *ashtādaśa-ātavi-rājya* (eighteen forest chiefdoms) of the Betul plates of Saṁkshōbha.⁶ The name *ashtādaśa Gōndrama* applied to these tracts was probably due to the predominance of the Gond tribe over other aboriginal tribes inhabiting these parts and seems to have survived in the geographical expression *āthara gadhjāt* still applied to all the feudatory states of Orissa by the people, though as a matter of fact their number at present is not eighteen but twenty-four. It should be

¹ J. B. O. R. S. Vol. XV, p. 89.

² Ibid., Vol. XVI, pp. 457 ff.

³ Pt. B. Misra. *Orissa under the Bhauma Kings*, p. 89.

⁴ J. B. O. R. S., Vol. XVII, p. 17, text l. 33, Bhandarkar's List, No. 2076.

⁵ J. B. O. R. S., Vol. II, pp. 402 (text l. 18), 406 (text l. 9) and 418 (text ll. 1-) and Vol. VI, p. 239 (text l. 13).

⁶ Above Vol. VIII, p. 287 (text l. 9) and discussion on p. 286.

noted in this connection that the credit of having conquered the whole of Gōndrama given to Jayānanda in this record may just be an exaggeration. *Airavāṭṭa*, after which the *viśhaya* of that name was called, has been identified with Raṭāgarh in the Banki Police Station of the Cuttack district¹. *Pōtōḍā* and *Lambēva* may provisionally be identified with Pōṭal in the Hindol State and Limbu in the Narasinghpur State respectively. Puṇḍravarddhana is the well-known ancient name for North Bengal. I cannot suggest any identification for Jambama-Nārāyaṇapura.

TEXT.*

Obverse.

- 1 Ōm² svasty=akalita-kali-kāla-kalmasha-pravēś-āvakāśād=vijit-āsēśh-Ōjṇyānī-guṇa-nikarāt [Jayapurāt*]³ ||
- 2 Va(Ba)bhūva Nand-ōdbhava-va(vanb)śa-sambhavaḥ sva-vikram-ākrānta-samasta-Gōndramaḥ ||(l) dharādhipō dhamma(rmma)dharah sudhimān=śrīmān-Ja-
- 3 yānanda iti pravīrah || [1*]⁴ Yasmin=rājani dinam=akshara-yugan=dēh=iti n=aiva śrutam n=ātānkā[h*] kusrit⁵ kutō na cha
- 4 mṛishā dvandvan=na ch=āsīn=nṛiṇāḥ(nām) ||(l) śa[rvvayyā]m=ava(ba)lā sahāya-vikal=ālānkāra-jhaṅkāriṇi kshivā yāty=ajanē vanē ya-
- 5 di puna=vvā(r=vvā)[rttā] Dilipē nripē [|| 2*]⁶ Kanaka-ruchira-kāntiḥ prōnnataḥ pūrit-āsah sphurita-vimala-ratnaḥ sūra-dulla(rlla)ṅghya-mūtti(rtti)ḥ [1*]
- 6 vu(bu)dha-jana-nuta-pādō Mēru-vat-tasya sākshāt=priyatama-tanayō=bhūch=chhi(ch=chhri)-Parānanda-nāma(mā) || [3*]⁷ Tasya(sy=ā)pi ch=āsīt=suvisu(śu)ddha-
- 7 pakshō vasañ=janānām khalu mānasē cha [1*] hansō(hamsō) yathā hansa(hamsa)-[samā*]-na-kirtti[r*]=nnāmnā Śivānanda iti prasiddha-
- 8 ḥ || [4*]⁸ Tasy=ābhūt=tanayas=trīṇikṛita-ripu-vrāta-jvalat-pāvakō vā(bā)l-aiṇāṅka iv=ānvay-āmva(mba)ra-gatō yō='bhūtsri(t=pri)-
- 9 ya[h*] prāpinām(nām) ||(l) tāra(ru)ṇyē taruṇi-vilōchana-putair=āpīta-rūp-āmritō Dēvānanda iti prasiddhim=aga-
- 10 mad=yaḥ svair-guṇair=nni[r]mmalaiḥ || [5*]⁹ Durvvār-āri-kar-īndra-kumbha-dalanē sphūjja-(rjja)t-karah kēsari śasvan=māna-
- 11 vati-mukh-āvja(bja)-jayakṛit=tivṛāśu(vrāmśu)mālī śadā ||(l) tasmād=ēva Vilā[sa*]tuṅga-nṛipatiḥhū(r=bhū)tas=satām=agraṇi-
- 12 ya(r=ya)sy=ōchchaiḥ sa(śa)rad-indu-dhāma-dhavalām nityam yasō(śō) varddhatē || [6*]¹⁰ Nakshatr-āvali-hāra-dāmakavati nitya(tyam)
- 13 nabhō-mandirē jōsnā(jyōtsnā)-chāndana-lē[pa]n-ātidhavalā sānd(ndr)-āndhakār-āmva(mba)-rā [1*] [ya*]sy=ōtu(ttu)ṅga-sudhā-grī-
- 14 hē=tidhavalē dig-yōshītān-darppaṇē sva(syam) rūpamva(m va)ra-kāmin=iva rajanī chandr-ānānā pasya(śya)ti || [7*]¹¹ Yaay=ō-

¹ J. B. O. R. S., Vol. XVII, p. 4.

* From the original and inked impressions.

² Represented by a symbol.

³ This name has been supplied here from Dhruvānanda's plate, J. B. O. R. S., Vol. XV, p. 90.

⁴ Metre : Upajāti.

⁵ Read *kusritih* or *kusritih*.

⁶ Metre : Śārdūlavikṛīḍita.

⁷ Metre : Mālinī.

⁸ Metre : Upajāti.

Obverse.



SCALE: SEVEN TENTHS.

Reverse.

18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34

18 20 22 24 26 28 30 32 34

- 15 chchaiḥ sita-mandirā[d=dhva]ja-diśi(śi) prōtu(ttu)ṅga-haṭṭ-āvali su(su)bhrā chāru-sudhā-
vikāra-rachanaś(ś)=chandr-ātapa-sparddhini |
- 16 dūrād=bhāti dṛiṣaḥ(śaḥ) padañ=gatavatī lōkasya sa[nchā]riṇō ni(ni)hārōtkarabhūdharād=
iva sa(śa)nair=Mmandāki-
- 17 [ni syandati]¹ || [8*]² Sa srī(śrī)-**Nanda-kul**-āmva(mbu)j-ākara-raviḥ sad-vanśa(śa)-
dīpā(dīpō) nṛipaś(ś)=chaṇḍ-ārāti(ti)-vadhū-mukh-āvja(bja)-sasa(śaśa)-

Reverse.

- 18 [bhṛid=rakt-ānta-dīrgh-ēkshaṇaḥ] — — — — — pulakikurvvan=jana[n=chē]śṣṭitaiḥ
satya-tyāga-ka(ku)lābhi-
- 19 [māna-vi]nayā yasy=āṅgaḥ sad-guṇāḥ || [9*]³ Dīpyat-pratāp-ā[na]la-[plusṭ-ārā]ti-mūrttiś=
chatur-ambhōdadhi⁴-paryanta-bhrānta-
- 20 [sat-kīrtti]ya(r=ya)th-ō[chi]ta-[paryavasthā]pita-varṇa-cha[tu*]śṣṭayaḥ pūrit-āśēśa-
praṇayi-jana-manōrathaḥ sajjana-jan-ā-
- 21 [na]nda-dāyī rakt-āmva(mba)ra-pramaṇḍita-kaladhautā-dōllikā-chāmara-pralamvi(mbi)ta-
prānta-krōḍa-dēśa-vinyasta-mayūra-cha-
- 22 ndrikā-nikara-sita-chchhatr-āvabhāsamāna-sita-dhātumaya-gōdhā-si(śi)kharikṛita- lōhitā-
lōchan-āmva(mba)ra-dhvaja[h*] pa-
- 23 ramamāhēśvara- matā-pitri-pād-ānudyāta-parama-bhaṭṭāraka-sa m a d h i g a t a - p a n c h a -
mahāśavda(bda)-mahāsāma-
- 24 ntādhipati-śrī-**Dēvānandadēvaḥ** kuśali Airāvātṭa-maṇḍala-samva(mba)ddha-Pōtōḍā-
vishayē bhavishyad-yathā-
- 25 kāla-bhāvinō rājakāna⁴ rāja-putrā[n*] Vrā(brā)hma[ṇa*]-purōgān=sōmantān=nivāsi-janapa-
dān=adhikāriṇaḥ sa-ka-
- 26 raṇān=anyā[m]ś=cha chāṭa-bhaṭa-vallabha-jāti(ti)yān=rāja-pād-ōpajivinaḥ sarvvān=yath-
ārham mānayati vō(bō)dhayati kuśa-
- 27 layaty=ādīśati ch=ānyata(t)[*] Vīditam=astu bhavatām=ētaḍ-vishaya-samva(mba)[ddha-*]
Lamvē(mbē)va⁵-grām-ōdaya⁶ sa-jala-stha[laḥ*]
- 28 sa-gartt-āvaskara[h*] prajñāyamāna-chatu[h*]-simā-paya(rya)ntaḥ Puṇḍa(ṇḍra)varddhana-
vinirggata-Jamva(mba)ma-Nārāyaṇapura-Bhaṭa(tṭa)-
- 29 sāmānya-Kāṇva-śākha-Yajurvēdi(dī)-Kṛishnātrē[ya-gōtrāya*] Ārchchanānasa-Śā v ā ś ē t i -
hōtā⁷ richavāvasa-vat dityadhvaya⁸
- 30 Ādityaddh(dha)ara-sutaś=cha Śaktiddha(dha)ra-suta-Vasma(Brahma?)ddhara-bhāṭaḥ⁹ ||¹⁰
matā-pitrōr=ātmanaś=cha puṇya-yaśō-bhivri-

¹ This reading is clear in Dhruvānanda's plate. The correct form of the last word is *syandamānā*.

² Metre: *Śārdūlavikṛīḍita*.

³ Read *ambhōdhi*.

⁴ Read *rājanakān* as in the Talmul plate.

⁵ [The reading seems to be *Lamvē(bē)da*.—B. C. C.]

⁶ [Possibly the intended reading is *-grāmō-yaṇ*.—B. C. C.]

⁷ [This evidently refers to the *tryāśhēya Pravara* of the donee, and is to be corrected as *Atvēy-Ārch-
chanānasa-Śyāvāśv-ēti hōtrē*. Compare *Gōtrapravarānibandhakadamba*, p. 57.—B. C. C.]

⁸ The sense after *hōtā* is not clear.

⁹ We have probably to amend the reading as *Ādityadhara-sutasya Śaktidharasya sūtāya Brahmadhara-chaṭṭāya*.

¹⁰ This sign of punctuation is not needed.

- 31 ddhayē tāmva¹-śāsanēna pradattō=smābhiḥ[||*] yatas=tāmva¹-śāsana-darśanād=asmakā(t-kā)ry-ā[nu*]rōdhāja(d=ya)thā-kāla-
- 32 [phala]-niyam-ōpabhujyamānā(na)[sya*] na kēn=āsya pata(ri)panthi(nthi)nā bhā(bha)vitavya-[m] [||*] Mā[bhū*]d=aphala-sam(śam)kā vaḥ para-da-
- 33 tt=ēti pārthiva(vāḥ) [||*] sva-datā(ttā)[t*] pha[la]m=āna[ntyam] para-datt-[ānupālanē] [||*] Sva-dattā[m=para=dattā*]m=vā yō harēta vasundharām [||*] sa vī(vi)shṭhā[yām*] [kṛi]-
- 34 [mir=bhūtva] pitṛibhiḥ saha pachyatē [||*] [Va(Ba)hubhir=vasudhā dattā rāja][bhiḥ Sagar-ādibhiḥ*] yasya yasya [yadā*] [bhūmis=tasya tasya tadā phalam] [||*] [Iti]
- 35 [kamala-dal-āmvu(mbu)-vindu-lōlām]

TRANSLATION.

(L. 1) Ōm. Hail ! From [Jayapura] which is exempted from the ingress of vices of the Kali Age and has surpassed all the qualities of Ujjayani.

(Verse 1) There was born in the **Nandōdbhava** family a virtuous, extremely intelligent and surpassingly heroic king named **Jayānanda**, who, by dint of his own valour, subjugated the whole of Gōndrama.

(V. 2) It was during his kingship that the poor twin letters *dēhi* (i.e. 'give') were never heard ; no diseases, no fraud from anywhere and no false quarrel ever occurred among the people, (*so much so that even*) a drunken woman, with her ornaments jingling, could pass through a desolate forest at night unescorted (*without being molested by any robber on the way*), whereas such (*a state of perfectly good rule*) is ascribed to king Dilipa.²

(V. 3) He had a son, most beloved to him, the illustrious **Parānanda** by name, who, being of splendid golden complexion, dignified, having his ambitions fulfilled, bedecked with glittering flawless jewels, his person being unassailable by warriors, (*and*) deeply honoured by the learned, evidently resembled the Mēru (*mountain*) which is (*likewise*) endowed with pleasing brilliance on account of its gold, is very lofty, has occupied large space, is possessed of sparkling pure gems, with its bulk unscalable by adventurers (*and*) its foot frequented by the gods.

¹ Read *tāmra*.

² Only some traces of the rest of the verse are to be seen on the plate ; it may be supplied as *śriyam=anu-chintya manushya-jivitañ=cha | sakalam=idam=udāhṛitañ=cha buddhvā nahi purushaiḥ para-kīrtitayō vilōpyāḥ |*

³ Every word in the passage *śarvaryām*, etc., has a special significance. Thus *śarvaryām* = at night, an opportune time for committing robbery ; *abalā* = woman, literally 'powerless one' whom it is easy to assail or overpower ; *sahāya-rikalā* = without any escort or companion, so that the crime can be perpetrated without any fear of immediate detection ; *alaṅkāra-jhaṅkāriṇī* = her ornaments making a jingling noise, thereby assuring a handsome booty ; *kshivā* = drunken, thus too senseless to offer any resistance ; *ajanē vanē* = in a jungle where there is no human being near by, so that there is no rescuing even if the victim shouts for help.

The author of the inscription indulges in poetic fancy, asserting that Jayānanda's virtues have mistakenly been attributed to Dilipa. The description of Dilipa alluded to is echoed in the following verses :

Yasmin mahīm śāsati vāṇinīnām nidrām vihar-ārdha-pathē gatānām |

Vātō-pi n=āsrāmsayad=amśukāni kō lambayēd=āharaṇāya hastam ||

(*Raghuvamśa*, VI, 75).

Na kil=ānuyayus=tasya rājānō rakshitur=yasah |

Vyāvṛittā yat=para-svēbhyaḥ śrutau taskaratā sthitā ||

(*Ibid.*, I, 27).

Trayaḥ śabdā na jīryantē Dilīpasya nivēśanē |

Svādhyāya-ghōṣhō jyā-ghōṣhō dīyatām= iti vai trayaḥ ||

(*Mahābhārata*, XIII (*Śāntiparvan*), 29, 79).

The last verse rather presents a contrast : with Dilipa a request never passed unfulfilled, while in Jayānanda's reign it never came to utter a request.

(V. 4) He, too, had a son, who was well-known by the name of **Śivānanda**, had faithful allies, and verily won the hearts of his people (*and*) whose fame shone forth like the sun, (*who was thus*) quite as a swan with pure white wings, dwelling in the Mānasa (*lake*).

(V. 5) He had a son, called **Dēvānanda**, who proved a veritable blazing fire to his enemies reduced to the state of straw, who, having ascended in the sky of his family, like a new moon endeared himself to (*all*) beings, whose nectar of beauty, in youth, maidens drank to their heart's content using their eyes as goblets, (*and*) who acquired renown through his stainless qualities.

(V. 6) He was a roaring lion in tearing asunder the frontal globes of the great elephants of the irresistible enemies and was always a sun in winning over the lotus-like faces of zealous women. On that account the present king was (*known*) as *Vilāsatuṅga*. He is the foremost among the pious and his fame, as white as autumnal moon-light, is intensely increasing everyday.¹

(V. 7) The night having moon as her face, dense darkness as her garment, stars as a string of necklace, and appearing excessively fair due to the besmearing of sandal paste of moon-light, beholds, just like a beautiful woman in the chamber of the sky, her own image in his lofty and extremely white palace, which is a mirror to the ladies of the quarters.

(V. 8) From his white palace, towards the banners, the beautiful and white row of tall shops, on account of their whitewash, becoming a rival to the moon-light, looked at from a distance by the people moving about, appears like the Ganges gently flowing down from the Himālaya mountain.

(V. 9) This king, the light of the noble family, is a very sun to the lotus-lake (*in the form*) of the prosperous Nanda family, is a very moon to the lotuses that are the faces of his fierce enemies' wives, having large eyes with red ends....excessively delighting the people with his doings. Truth, charity, family-pride and humility are his inborn good qualities.

(Ll. 19-24) The illustrious *Paramabhaṭṭāraka Mahāsāmantādhipati Dēvānandadēva*, who has through the blazing fire of his prowess consumed the bodies of his enemies, whose good fame has travelled as far as the four oceans, who has placed the four *varṇas* in their proper positions, fulfilled the desires of all the suppliants, gives delight to the virtuous men, who has a cloth-banner (*with the emblem*) of the red-eyed snakes wearing on their heads the alligators made of white

¹ [Mr. Panigrahi's above rendering of this verse seems to be responsible for the confusion he has made in the genealogy. It may be pointed out that the author has used the past tense in describing the first four rulers, while in the case of Vilāsatuṅga he employs the present tense, thereby indicating that the charter was issued by Vilāsatuṅga who has clearly been spoken of as *tasmād*.....*bhūtaḥ* 'who has been born from him (*i.e.* from Dēvānanda)'. This Vilāsatuṅga and the second Dēvānanda mentioned in l. 24 have been taken by me as referring to one and the same person because the descriptive attributes place them in apposition to each other and there is no such word used as *tasmāt* or *tasya* to indicate their relation otherwise.

The sixth verse may thus be explained as follows: "It was from him that the king Vilāsatuṅga has been born, who, clapping his hands, appears a very lion for tearing asunder the frontal globes of his enemies' huge elephants that are difficult to check, who always wins over a repeatedly offended lady (*as easily*) as the sun causes a lotus-bud to unfold, who ranks foremost among the virtuous (*and*) whose glory, as bright as the light of autumnal moon, ever grows further and further."—B. C. C.]

metal, that floats on the white umbrella held over the golden litter covered with red cloth, inlaid with peacock feathers in its inner side and with *chowries* hanging down (*from it*),¹ who is a devout worshipper of Śiva, who has acquired (*title to*) the five *mahāśabdās* (*and*), who meditates on the feet of his father and mother, being in good health ;

(Ll. 24-32) duly honours, intimates to, enquires after the health of and commands all those that will in course of time be, (*viz.*) chiefs, princes, all the inhabitants of the country headed by Brāhmanas, feudatories, functionaries along with the *kaṇṇas*, and others of the class of *Chāṭa*, *Bhaṭa* and *Vallabha*, dependent on the king, in the Pōtōḍā *viśhaya* included in the Airāvatta *maṇḍala* : “ Be it known to you that the income² of the village *Lambēva*³, along with its land and water, along with its pits and their contents, included in this *viśhaya* (*of Pōtōḍā*), up to the four well-known boundaries, has been granted by Us, by means of a copper-plate charter, for the increase of the glory and religious merit of Our parents and of Ourselves, to *Bhaṭṭa* Brahmadhara, son of Śaktidhara, son of Ādityadhara, hailing from Puṇḍravardhana, a member of the Bhaṭṭa community of Jambama-Nārāyaṇapura, a student of the Kaṇva *śākhā* of the Yajurveda, belonging to the Kṛishṇātrēya *gōtra*, a *hōtrī* having (*the triple pravara of*) [*Ātrēya*]-Ārchanānasa-Śyāvāśva, Wherefore, seeing this copper charter and having regard for our deed, nobody should cause any obstruction to him while he is regularly enjoying the seasonal yields (*of the gift*). ”

(Ll. 32-35) [Here follow four of the customary verses.]

No. 8.—A NOTE ON THE DATE OF CHOLA GANDARADITYA.

BY A. S. RAMANATHA AYYAR, B.A., MADRAS.

In the short interval of about 32 years between Parāntaka who ruled from A.D. 907 to at least A.D. 953,⁴ and Rājarāja I whose date of accession was A.D. 985, five members, *viz.*, Rājakesarin Gaṇḍarāditya, Parakēsarī Ariṇjaya, Rājakesarin Sundara-Chōḷa, Parakēsarī Āditya II and Parakēsarī Uttama-Chōḷa, have to be accounted for. As they are usually designated in inscriptions, by their dynastic titles of Parakēsarī or Rājakesarin, their identity has to be determined only by the internal evidence in the records, if any. The exact periods when these kings ruled are also not specified, except in the case of Parakēsarī Uttama-Chōḷa whose date of accession has been fixed to be A.D. 969-70⁵.

With the help of three records belonging to a Rājakesarivarman copied from the Trichinopoly District, all of which are palæographically attributable to the 10th century A.D. and

¹ [This epithet, I think, is to be split up into two, one ending with *avabhāsamāna* and the other beginning with *śitadhātu*. Their construction is rather clumsy, but the first evidently describes the king's sedan (*ḍollikā*) and the second the royal banner over the palace. They may be translated as follows: “ whose gold sedan is decorated with a red cloth, is flanked by suspended *chowries*, has its interior furnished with the feathers of the peacock's tail (*their eyes being seen prominently*), (*and*) shines forth with a white umbrella (*spread over*) ; whose banner with a snake (*emblem*) is surmounted by an alligator made of white metal (*śitadhātu*) ”.—B. C. C.]

² [This seems to be the translation of *grām-ōḍaya*. The word *udaya* does also mean ‘income’ but its adjuncts *sa-jala-sihalā*, etc., do not justify the reading *udaya* in the text. The intened reading as suggested above (p. 79, n. 6) is probably *grāmō-’yam*, in which case the gift consists of the village itself.—B. C. C.]

³ [See above p. 79, n. 5.—Ed.]

⁴ There is a solitary record dated in the 48th year of the king at Vanamaladimme in the Chittoor District (No. 200 of 1931-32 of the Madras Epigraphical collection).

⁵ No. 456 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1908.

evidently relate to one and the same king of that title, an attempt is made herein to fix the initial date of Rājakēsarīn Gaṇḍarāditya. The records under reference are :

Place.	Details of date.	Remarks.
1. Allūr ¹ . . .	5th year, Kaṇṇi, lunar eclipse ⁴ . . .	Mentions the son of Viraśōla-Irukkuvel.
2. Pālūr ² . . .	Ditto . . .	Mentions Mahimālaya-Irukkuvel <i>alias</i> Parāntaka-Viraśōla.
3. Do. ³ . . .	Ditto . . .	Ditto.

From the surnames Parāntaka and Virachōla of the Irukkuvel chief named Mahimālaya figuring in the two Pālūr inscriptions (Nos. 2 and 3), it can be inferred that this chief had been a contemporary of Parāntaka *alias* Vira-Chōla, and that the Rājakēsarivarman, in whose records also he figures, was evidently one who came after this Chōla king.

The occurrence of a lunar eclipse in the Kanyā month cited in the records is, however, an important astronomical detail, which is helpful in fixing the date. In the period of fifty years from A.D. 940 to 990, there were only three years in which such an eclipse occurred, viz.⁵—

1. A.D. 954, September 15, Friday; śu.15 (.35); Uttirattādi (Uttara-Bhādrapadā) (.15);
2. A.D. 955, September 4, Tuesday; śu.15 (.92); Pūrattādi (Pūrva-Bhādrapadā) (.50) and Uttirattādi (f. d. n. .49); and
3. A.D. 973, September 15, Monday; śu.15 (.25); Uttirattādi (.03).

Of these, the last date may be left out of account as it would definitely fall in the 4th year of the reign of Parakēsarivarman Uttama-Chōla. The remaining two dates which are fortunately contiguous to each other and are removed by a period of one year only, would yield either A.D. 949-50 or A.D. 950-51 as the initial date of this Rājakēsarivarman.

However, a record from Nirppalaṇi⁶ in the Pudukkōṭṭai State said to be dated in the 10th year of a Rājakēsarivarman states that Mahimālaya-Irukkuvel *alias* Parāntaka-Viraśōla, who is identical with the chief figuring in the Pālūr inscriptions noted above, made a gift to the temple at Nirppalaṇi, while he visited the temple at Tiruppālatturai during a lunar eclipse, which occurred in the Uttirattādi-nakshatra in the month of Kanyā. As the other details are identical, the regnal year read as 10 appears to be a mistake for 5; and Uttirattādi-nakshatra must have also been the star quoted in the portion lost in the Allūr inscription. It is quite possible also that the king had bestowed gifts to the four temples at Allūr, Pālūr, Nirppalaṇi and Tiruppālatturai, all situated near to each other, on the same religious occasion of a lunar eclipse, while staying at the last-mentioned temple. A.D. 954 September 15, Friday, with Uttirattādi-nakshatra may therefore be selected as the date of these three records, in preference to the other date in A.D. 955. As this day fell in the 5th year of this king Rājakēsarivarman, the date of his accession would lie between A.D. 949, September 16 and A.D. 950, September 15.

¹ No. 366 of the same collection for 1903.

² No. 346 of the same collection for 1918.

³ No. 348 of the same collection for 1918.

⁴ In this record the portion containing the name of the *nakshatra* during which the eclipse occurred is built in, and the expression *parriṇa* is alone visible. The missing words were probably *Uttirattādi-nakshatrattu parriṇa* as in the Nirppalaṇi inscription.

⁵ According to Swamikannu Pillai's *Indian Ephemeris*, some other years in which such an eclipse occurred were A.D. 871, 889, 890, in the reign of Aditya I, a Rājakēsarīn; but the records cannot palaeographically be attributed to that king.

⁶ *Inscriptions in the Pudukkōṭṭai State*, No. 30.

Who was this Rājākēsarivarman, whose date of accession was A.D. 949-50? We know from the Ātakūr record¹ that the combined armies of Rāshṭrakūṭa Kṛishṇa III and the Gaṅga Būtuga had defeated the Chōḷa army led by prince Rājāditya at Takkōlam in the North Arcot District and that this Chōḷa prince had also lost his life in the encounter. This record is dated simply in Śaka 872, current, Saumya, corresponding to A.D. 949-50; but in the absence of other details, its exact date cannot be calculated. From the foregoing facts it can, however, be inferred that soon after the death of the eldest prince Rājāditya in the end of A.D. 949, Parāntaka had nominated his second son Gaṇḍarāditya as the heir-apparent² in the beginning of A.D. 950, and that the latter began to count his own regnal years from this year onwards.

As some records³ dated in the 8th year are definitely assignable to Gaṇḍarāditya, his reign may have extended from A.D. 950 to 957 at least.⁴ His end is cryptically described in the expression 'Mēṛkeḷundaruḷiṇa-Dēiar' i.e., 'he who was pleased to proceed west', but its significance is not quite clear. It is possible that he had lost his life in one of the skirmishes with Rāshṭrakūṭa Kṛishṇa III's army in occupation that may have occurred in the western frontier, and that this event was sought to be euphemistically expressed as 'a journey to the west', from which, however, the king probably never returned alive.

No. 9.—BIJHOLI ROCK INSCRIPTION OF CHAHAMANA SOMESVARA : V. S. 1226.

By SAMSKRITI PT. AKSHAYA KEERTY VYĀS, M.A., UDAIPUR.

The rock inscription under description was at first published by Kavirāja Śyāmaldās of Udaipur in 1886, in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Vol. LV, part I (pp. 14-15, 28-32 and 40-46) together with some other epigraphs. Since then it has been dealt with by many scholars in connection with the genealogy of the Imperial Chāhamāna dynasty of Śākambharī. But the transcript of the record as published by the Kavirāja was far from satisfactory⁵ and the necessity for re-editing it properly has frequently been felt by scholars.⁶ Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, it appears, was to re-edit it⁷, but as he has not been able to undertake the work so far, I have taken up the task at the instance of Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, Government Epigraphist for India.

Bijholī is a small fortified picturesque town situated in 25° 10' N. and 75° 20' E., about 112 miles north-east of Udaipur. Its position is in the midst of what is known as the *ūparamāla* or the uppermost table-land called Pathār, in the Aravalli Hills. This table-land extends from Bārōḷī and Bhainsarorgarh in the south to Jahāzpur in the north through Menāl, Bijholī and Māṇḍalgarh, once forming an important portion of the Imperial Chāhamāna dominions of Sāmbar and

¹ *Ante*, Vol. VI, p. 51.

² The statement in verse 21 of the Larger Leiden plates of Rājārāja I that after Rājāditya, Gaṇḍarāditya succeeded to the throne, has to be taken to refer to this heir-apparency only (*ante*, Vol. XXII, p. 256).

³ No. 176 of 1907 and No. 574 of 1908 which are records of a Rājākēsarivarman refer to Piḷḷaiyār (Prince) Arikulakēsarīn, who was the younger brother of Gaṇḍarāditya.

⁴ It may be mentioned that the same dates have been suggested by Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri in his *Cōḷas*, Vol. I, p. 180. The facts noted above support his chronological scheme for this period.

⁵ The transcript of the record which the Kavirāja later on published in the *Vira-vinōda* (Part I, pp. 383-89) is far better than the one under reference.

⁶ Above, Vol. V, *Appendix*, p. 22, n. 3; H. C. Ray's *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, p. 1082, n. 1.

⁷ Above, Vol. XII, p. 222.

Ajmer. It now forms a part of the State of Udaipur. It is very rich in archæological remains, being possessed of numerous ancient monuments now mostly in ruins, of superb architectural and sculptural beauty, such as the temples at Bāroli and Menāl which Col. Tod¹ and James Fergusson² have so highly eulogised. The localities of Jahāzpur, Māṇḍalgarh, Bījholī, Menāl, etc., comprised in this tract, are also the find-spots of a number of epigraphs important for the chronology of the Imperial Chāhamāna dynasty. In fact, every nook and corner of this picturesque table-land has to narrate a story about itself through either sculptures, epigraphs or architectural remains. Princes of the Hūṇa tribe, it is said, were the first founders of towns like Bījholī here, and were the paramount lords of the whole country extending from near the Koṭā border to the precincts of Būndi.³ This Hūṇa possession, in course of time, came under the Imperial Chāhamāna control through conquest and subsequently passed into the hands of the Guhilots of Mewār⁴ and is still in their possession.

Thus, Bījholī⁵ is an important archæological site with certain ancient temples of unique design and elaborate sculptures, still surviving. The place is at present held by one of the sixteen first-class *Umarāvas* or vassals of the Rājās of Udaipur, who is called the Rāo of Bījholī. He is an offshoot of the Paramāra family, whose ancestors had come to Mewār from Jāgner between Agra and Baiāna in about A.D. 1610.

The first antiquarian who visited this place was Col. James Tod who has described it in his *Annals and Antiquities of Rājasthān*, Vol. III, pp. 1797-1800 (W. Crooke's ed.). Later on, Mr. Carlleyle, assistant to Major-General Alexander Cunningham of the Archæological Survey of India, paid a visit to the place and described it and its antiquities in the *A. S. R.*, Vol. VI, pp. 234-52. Subsequently some other scholars, such as Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, also had occasion to visit the place. Mr. Carlleyle stayed at Bījholī for about five days during which period he examined all that was of archæological interest and importance there, minutely describing them in his *Report*; but unfortunately due to heavy rains which prevented him from further exploration, he could not find the rock inscription under description the existence of which he knew from Tod only⁶. He has, therefore, not been able to tell anything about the present record.

The inscription is engraved on a flat undulating rock under a Mahuvā (*Bassia latifolia*) tree, within the encircling wall, towards the north of the big reservoir of water attached to the shrine of Pārśvanātha situated about three-quarters of a mile to the south-east of the town of Bījholī. Tod has described this site in his "Personal Narrative", but his account is somewhat vague and confused, for, he here speaks of 'no less than five temples to Pārśvanātha, the twenty-third of the Jain pontiffs, all of considerable magnitude and elaborate architectural details'. But in reality, there is only one large Jain temple dedicated to Pārśvanātha with four small shrines on its four corners, as Mr. Carlleyle rightly observes⁷. Moreover, the architectural details of the temple of Pārśvanātha which Tod mentions as elaborate are really anything but elaborate. The whole style and execution of the temple is, as a matter of fact, so commonplace that there is hardly

¹ Tod, *Annals and Antiquities of Rājasthān*, Vol. III, pp. 1752-60 and 1796-1805 (W. Crooke's ed.).

² Fergusson, *History of Indian and Eastern Architecture*, pp. 448-451.

³ Cunningham, *A. S. R.*, Vol. VI, p. 234.

⁴ For the various spellings of this geographical place as used by various scholars, see Ray's *Dy. Hist.*, Vol. II, p. 1081, n. 7.

⁵ Cunningham, *A. S. R.*, Vol. VI, p. 242.

anything of artistic interest. This temple of Pārśvanātha with the reservoir and the orchard attached is, at present, a Digambara Jain property and is under the supervision of Paṭavārī Hīrālāl Kāmdār¹, a devout Digambara Jain and a lover of antiquity.

The surface of the rock containing the inscription is not smooth but rough and undulating, and hence it is very difficult to take impressions of the record. The rock has suffered for centuries from exposure and it was only very recently that Rāo Savāi Krishna Singh, the grandfather of the present Rāo Savāi Kesari Singh of Bījholī, erected² a small roof over the rock for protection. Wherever the rock was originally defective, it has been left blank; but now the portion of the rock used for engraving has also peeled off at places, and thus some of the important portions of the text have totally been destroyed. As regards **measurement**, the first line of writing on the rock is 5' 3" long and the last complete line is 12' in length, the intervening lines gradually increasing in length both ways as we proceed downwards. The height of the inscription between the first and the last line is 3' 6". There are in all thirty lines of writing on the rock, of which the last one is even less than half.

Regarding **palaeography** there is practically nothing remarkable. The initial vowel *i* which is used three or four times in the whole inscription, however, appears in its ancient form made up of two dots and a comma below, the modern form of the letter being totally absent. The consonant *ḥ* which occurs twice in two different geographical names, viz., *Mōrāḥharī* (l. 11) and *Laghu-Vīḥhōlī* (l. 29) is somewhat confusing, having been so formed as to appear like *kr*. The form of *n* is throughout similar to that of *t* except for a small notch on the lowest extremity of the left-hand side loop which is often imperceptible. *G* in its reduplicated form is throughout represented as *gn*.

In respect of **orthography** the most conspicuous point to be noted is the indiscriminate use of the sibilants, particularly the dental and the palatal, throughout the inscription, e.g., *Nāśā-svāsēna* (l. 2), *Pārśvanāthaḥ* (l. 4), *subha-tatiḥ* and *chaturvimsatiḥ* (l. 5), *sauryēṇa* (l. 10), etc., of which the use of *s* in place of *ś* is more frequent than *vice versa*. Almost the same is the case with regard to the use of *v* and *b*, for examples, cf. *-nītamvinī-*, *vibhrati* and *nirvādha-vōdh°* (l. 5), *vabhūva* (l. 12), *sad-vuddhi-vamdhura* (l. 13), etc., and *-baryaḥ* (l. 8), *-ballīm* (l. 18) and *banam* (l. 20). *J* is used in lieu of *y* in *jam na(yan=na)* (l. 8) and *bhārjjayōr=* (l. 14). The sound of *kh* is sometimes represented by its proper sign, while in some cases the sign for *sh* is employed in its stead. Consonants following a superscript *r* are often reduplicated, e.g., in *niṣṭh-ārppitam* (l. 1), *karmm-ōnmūlana-* (l. 5), *nirggataḥ* (l. 12), and so on; sometimes they are left single, as in *gāmbhīry-audārya-ba(va)ryaḥ* (l. 8), *[da]rśayāmi* (l. 19), etc. Nasals are throughout represented by *anusvāra*, the only exception being *Gaṅga(ṅā)nātha* (l. 21). The sign for *avagraha* is employed about ten times.

The **language** of the inscription is Sanskrit and except for a few grammatical inaccuracies, the composition is free from errors. The clerical and engraving mistakes are, however, considerable. Thus, *sandhi* is not observed in some cases, while in others it is wrong. The transitive root *sū*, 'to beget, to produce' is used intransitively in *śrī-Jāsaṭṭ=sūta* (l. 13). The verbal noun *saṁsnātrī* in *saṁsnātrī kōṭi-līṅgānām* (l. 21) is used for its causative form *saṁsnāpayitrī*. Some of the verses contain paronymous words and thus convey double meanings. The whole epigraph is in verse except adoration to Vitarāga in the beginning and a portion after the last verse in l. 29, commencing with the date in numerals and terminating with the last line, recording various donations of land made by different persons for the maintenance of the Pārśvanātha temple, which are in prose.

¹ I am indebted to this gentlemen as well as to Sādhu Sītārāmdās, both residents of Bījholī, for the kind help they extended to me when I was there in connection with the preparation of a transcript of the record under edition.

² Ojha, *Rājaputāne kṛ Itihāsa*, Vol. II, p. 1198.

The inscription is indeed 'difficult' as admitted by scholars like Professor F. Kielhorn¹. This difficulty is, to some extent, due to careless engraving, but it chiefly lies in the ambiguous phraseology of certain verses of historical importance. Consequently their contents are open to more than one explanation. Some other historically important verses add to this difficulty by being overloaded with metaphors.

It is a Digambara Jain record inasmuch as its main **object** is to record the erection of a temple to Pārśvanātha, the twenty-third Jain pontiff, by a pious Digambara Jain named Lōlāka². But its importance lies in the long list it supplies of the princes of the Imperial Chāhamāna dynasty of Sāmbhar and Ajmer. The authentic and complete history of this ruling family is still not known. Till before A.D. 1875 the only source of information regarding the history of this dynasty was the well-known *Prithvirāja-rāsō*, an epic poem written in the old Rājasthānī dialect, supposed to be the work of the famous bard Chanda who was a contemporary and the court-poet of the Chauhān Prithvirāja. But the authenticity and the antiquity of the said work have been seriously doubted³. In the words of Mr. Vincent A. Smith we find that "the Chanda's *Rāesa*, as we now have it, is misleading, and all but worthless for the purposes of the historian"⁴. It was in the year 1875 that a birch-bark manuscript copy of an historical poem in Sanskrit called the *Prithvirāja-vijaya*, written in Śāradā characters, was discovered by Dr. Bühler in Kashmir in course of his tour in search of Sanskrit manuscripts. The discovery of this fragmentary manuscript threw fresh light on the history and chronology of the Imperial Chāhamāna dynasty. A short account of this poem was first brought to the notice of scholars by Mr. J. Morison in his article entitled "Some Account of the Genealogies in the *Prithvirāja-vijaya*", published in the *Vienna Oriental Journal*, Vol. VII, pp. 188-192. This work is proved to have been composed during the lifetime of Prithvirāja, the great Chauhān Emperor, from the fact that the poet Jayaratha, who flourished about A.D. 1200⁵, has quoted certain verses in his work, the *Vimarsaṇī*⁶, from this poem, and as such, the historical information it contains is genuine. The antiquity of this poem and therefore its historical accuracy is also vouched for by the fact that a commentary on it was written as early as about the middle of the fifteenth century by the well-known historian Jōnarāja, the author of the 'second' *Rājatarangīṇī* and the commentary on the *Kirātārjunīya* written in A.D. 1448. The order of chronology of the Chāhamāna princes as given in this poem also found full support from the Harsha stone inscription⁷ of Chāhamāna Vighraharāja dated in V. S. 1030, which mentions seven successive princes from Gūvaka (I) to Vighraharāja (II). But as the list supplied by this inscription was shorter than that given in the poem, some inscription of this period with a long list of these princes, exactly corresponding to that found in the poem, was a requisite so as to leave no room for suspicion. This desideratum has been supplied by the present rock inscription and therein lies its importance. The chronology of the Imperial Chāhamāna dynasty as given in the *Prithvirāja-vijaya* and as verified from the Bijholī rock inscription is, thus, to be accepted as authentic.

To take up now the **contents** of the record, we find that it opens with a salutation to Vitarāga in a small prose sentence. In v. 1 adoration is paid to that divine light produced in the (supreme) soul which has manifested itself in the form of the formula 'syāt'. V. 2 describes Rishabhadēva,

¹ Above, Vol. IX, p. 62.

² This name is variously spelt in the inscription as Lōlāka (v. 49), Lōllaka (v. 51), Lōlika (v. 58) and Lōlaka (v. 83).

³ J. A. S. B., 1886, part I, no. I, pp. 5-65.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 1881, p. 29.

⁵ Duff's *Chronology of India*, p. 171.

⁶ Bombay edition, p. 64.

⁷ Above, Vol. II, pp. 116 ff. and *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XLII, pp. 57-64.

the first Jaina Tirthankara. Then is described Śāntinātha, the sixteenth pontiff, in v. 3. In v. 4 are mentioned the marvellous activities of Nēminātha, the twenty-first Tirthankara, who is said to have blown the Pāñchajanya conch of Lord Kṛishṇa by means of the breath of his nose, pulled his bow Śārṅga with his thumb and shook Halabhr̥it with his finger. Then Pārśvanātha, the twenty-third apostle is described in v. 5. V. 6 is devoted to the description of Varddhamāna (Mahāvīra), the last Jaina Tirthankara. In v. 7 is adored the goddess of speech under two of her appellations, Śārādā and Bhārati. Vv. 8-9 mention other divinities in a general way.

Then begins the **genealogical portion** covering vv. 10-28. V. 10, the first couplet of this portion, poetically describes the Chāhamāna-vāṁśa where the expression *Śrī-Chāhamāna-kshiti-rāja-vāṁśaḥ* comprising its first quarter is open to two different explanations. Almost all scholars appear to have taken this compound to mean *Śrī-Chāhamāna ēva kshiti-rāja-vāṁśaḥ* 'the royal or princely dynasty known as Chāhamāna', for they regard the genealogy contained in this inscription to begin from Sāmanta¹; but the compound expression as well means *Śrī-Chāhamāna-kshiti-rājasya vāṁśaḥ* 'the family of the illustrious prince Chāhamāna', in which case the present genealogy suggests itself to start from **Chāhamāna**, the eponymous prince born from the *Sūrya-maṇḍala*² to whom the *Prithvirāja-vijaya* and the *Hammīra-mahākāvya*³ of Nayachandra Sūri trace the origin of the tribe. Nothing, however, is said of him here as also in the two poems referred to above. It hardly needs any mention that the birth of this prince of great antiquity from the Sun, as recorded in ancient works like the *Prithvirāja-vijaya*, clearly indicates the relation of the Chāhamāna princes to the race of Kshatriyas emanated from the Sun, and that the theory of their origin from the fire-pit of Vasishṭha on Mt. Abu as first propounded by Chanda, the author of the *Rāsō*, is merely a misleading fabrication.

In the next verse (v. 11) is given the description of Śākambharā (Śākambharī), the guardian deity of the Chāhamāna race, born as the wife of Viṣṇu. Most interesting to note in the present verse is the mention of the second prince of the *Prithvirāja-vijaya* and the *Hammīra-mahākāvya* lists, named Vāsudēva, as carving out his principality round the lake Śākambharā (Sāmbhār) which region is here said to have become his mother or mother-country (*jan=īva*, l. 6). The author has evidently referred to Vāsudēva by the variant Viṣṇu—a fact which has totally escaped the attention of scholars. Our author, it will be seen as we proceed further, is fond of employing variants in case of proper names, both geographical and genealogical. The word *tatō=pi* towards the end of this verse also indicates that the verse mentions some prince in descent from the one mentioned in the previous verse, who is undoubtedly Viṣṇu or Vāsudēva; and it thus also proves that *Chāhamāna* in the foregoing verse is used as the name of a prince and not as a mere family title. It is, thus, gratifying to find the genealogical lists of the Chāhamāna princes of Sāmbhar as given in the present rock inscription and the two historical poems referred to above, corresponding from the very starting point.

V. 12 is undoubtedly one of the difficult verses found in this portion for which scholars have offered more than one explanation. The verse describes a prince named **Sāmaranta** who has been regarded as the very first prince mentioned in the present inscription. But taking Chāhamāna as the first prince on this list as already discussed above, this prince is the third in order of description. He, of course, seems to be the first prince of this line who had established himself with some

¹ J. R. A. S., 1913, p. 270; above, Vol. V, *Appendix*, p. 22, no. 154; Ray, *Dy. His.*, Vol. II, pp. 1062 and 1081-82; Ojha, *Rāj. Itihs.*, Fasc. I, p. 363.

² J. R. A. S., 1913, p. 263.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. VIII, pp. 55-73.

TEXT¹

[Metres: verses 1, 3-8 *Varanatilaka*; verses 2, 9-10, 13 *Sārdulavikrīḍita*; verses 11-12 *Anuṣṭubh*.]

- 1 Siddham* [1*] Lakṣmī=chitāṇ=ja[ya]ḥ | vārinidhār=anōka-manth-ākulāḍ=adhigatā Puro-
ahōttamaśya | anihyat-tirōva[ḥ]ta-sammāda-ghūṛṇama(mā)na-nētr-āvalōkana-nira-
[sta=sa]masta-vi[ghnā]ḥ || [1*]
- 2 S=śyaṁ Vra(Bra)hma-puri Gay=āti jagati khyātā svayāt Vādhazā athātām vra(bra)hma-
vidhā pur=iva ghaṭitā mōkṣaśya saukhyasya cha | vrū(bṛi)ṇaḥ kiñ=cha bhavanti
ya[tra] pitarah prēt-ā-
- 3 lay-āvalānaḥ pāda-sprichta-jala-pradāna-vidhinā nāk-āṅganū-nāyakāḥ [,] || [2*] Aśyām va-
(ba)bhūva puri vakragati-dvījihva-sarppad-bhuja[ṅga]-ripur-Aśhyata-[pā]da-sāvi | yō
- 4 nāma Viśvapurathava²1-dvijarāja-varyah prītyā satām cha Paritōṣha ti prasaditah
|| [3*] Tasmād-Vidhār=iva va(ba)bhūva Sannakumātaḥ kri-Sō(Śō)drakō vimala-vu(bu)-
ddhi[r=anōka]-vidyāḥ |
- 5 bhūtyō=pi yāna Vidhān=aiṣa kṛitā Gay=śyaṁ vā(bā)hvōrva(r=ba)lāna anchiraṇ paripālita
cha || [4*] Tasmād=ajā[yata] satah satavad-dvijānām [yō=bhūti] an-vi[smaya=caṣṭa]śa-
kaṇṭu[ka]-³
- 6 ś=cha | viśv-āpakāraḥ-mitākṛitayō=vaṭṭṇaḥ śri-Viśvarūpa iti kīrtita-Viśvarūpaḥ || [5*]
Yam prāpya ch=śrīti-jana-vṛindam-akalpa-dānam-āpur⁴=bhavat-paśaka-jālam=ana-
- 7 ata-mōdam(dam) | sphūti-sphurad-dhena-kṛitārthatayō durūpa-chintāmaṇi-pra[bṛi]ṭkaḥ
na kad=āpi dāhīyaḥ || [6*] Yān-Āsurāri-charitōna mōh-ōdayāna yānti rasātalam=([v]-
āvani-
- 8 r=udbhṛit⁵=śyaṁ(yam || śrīmad-Gayā Kūḍi-mala-dvijarāja-pakṣa-sankhāḥbha-kampita-
tanur-bhuja-vikramōpa || [7*] Yaṁai viśuddha-charitāya nāgra(rga)-śau[cha-yō]ga-
[kri]yāya vi-
- 9 nay-āmala-bhūṣaṇāya | ā vā(bā)lyataḥ prakṛiti dēva-manasaḥya-lōkō va(ba)ḍh-ājjalā-
chicotaram sprīhayāśchakāra || [8*] Tōn-āmā=[tu] Gadādhara-īdi-nāya-vyāṅga tāḥ
kī⁶
- 10 kīrtitayāḥ āvāṭkōḍ(tānāḍ)r=iva rasma(sma)yaḥ sughaṭitā[h*] santāpa-sāntyaḥ andā | yā=cha
āmbhōmūḍi-viśi-vad-dāsa-dātam prakṣālan-aika-chohhaṭāḥ pā[tāla]-prativāsi-ghōra-
timī-
- 11 ra-pradhyanaa(dhvaṇaa)-dipā iva || [9*] Śtāḥ santa Gayāpuri-sutaruṇi-bhūḥ-āval-kīrtitayō
yāvach-chandra-divākara cha gaganam(āḥ) śri-Viśvarūp-āhvayaḥ | [ka]rti-dāam
cha tathā pu-
- 12 rāga-purushān rā[ḥ]bō=pi dhūkritya tad(tān)-yān-ākaṁka-riemay-aika-śaṅkō lōkō muhur-
mūrochchhitah || [10*] Dākāgyāḍ=aparuddhōna prīti-stūti-ahātāḥ | prahastir-ā-

¹ From impression. This is No. B 130 of *A.S. Ep.*, 1907-08.

² Expressed by symbol.

³ The akṣara va is written above the line.

⁴ The unnecessary double put at the end of the line here and elsewhere is ignored in our transcript.

⁵ Read 'apud' for 'apur' since the subject is in the singular or better read 'śrīkṛṣṇa' in place of 'apur-banav'.

⁶ A redundant 'mūḍi' was inserted with the akṣara dīkṛi.

⁷ The akṣara is redundant.

- 13 *chā vibhā Vaidya-śri-Vajrapāṇinā* || [11*] *Vijñāna-kausal-śilśea-jāta-naipūṇa-karmmaṣā* |
prastastir-śāhā likhitā Sarvavandāna dhimātā || [12*] *Kahir-āmbhōnidhi-mōkha-*
 14 *lā-maṇi-guṇ-ālamkāritāyā bhuvō bhartuḥ śri-Nayapālādē[va]-nripatēr-ājā-śri-*
yam vi(bh)bhataḥ | *sathvītā tarā-siva pañchadaśamē rājyasya samva(samva)-*
tsarē kirttiḥ siddham-upāgatā bhagavata(b)*
 15 *Armad-Gadādhāriṇaḥ* || [13*]

3. Fragmentary Inscription

Only the first five lines of this inscription are available with some traces of the writing at the beginning of line 6. Some letters in the central part of the fifth line are lost. The available section of the inscription contains, besides the *namaskāra*, three complete stanzas and parts of verse 4. As already indicated above, verse 1 is in adoration of the Sun-god and verses 2-4 are the same as verses 2-4 of the *prastāvi* by Vaidya Vajrapāṇi commemorating the construction of the temple of Gadādhara or Gadādhārini by Viśvarūpa in the fifteenth regnal year of Nayapāla (No. 2). But, while there is no *namaskāra* passage in prose at the beginning of that inscription, the present epigraph begins with '3. Obedience to Mārtanḍa (i.e. the Sun-god)'.

As suggested above, apparently the same Vaidya Vajrapāṇi composed this *prastāvi* to commemorate the building of a temple or the installation of a deity by Viśvarūpa or Viśvāditya who, as the two forms of his name suggest, was probably a devotee of both the gods Vishnu and the Sun. It may be pointed out that the inscription of his son begins with adoration to the Sun-god and records, among other pious deeds, the construction of a temple for housing several deities including Maṇvāditya and Vijayāditya, probably two aspects of the said god. It is thus possible to infer from the present record beginning with an adoration to the Sun-god that its object was to record the construction of a temple by Viśvarūpa alias Viśvāditya for the said god. In this connection, reference may be made to the god Śukla-bhānu (literally, 'the white sun') in verse 19 of the Akahayara inscription of Viśvarūpa (No. 1).

TEXT*

[Metres : verse 1 *Indramujā* ; verse 2 *Śārdūlavikrīṭa* ; verses 3-4 *Vasantatilakā*.]

- 1 ॐ namō Mārtanḍāya || Jāgarat yamien-unidē prayāti ch-āstan=to sūrē janatā samastā |
arailōkyā-dīpaḥ tam-annata-mūrtim-avyāhat-āham
 2 *śarapaḥ prayātā* || [1*] *Ś-āyam vra(bra)hma-purī Gay-āḥ jagatī khyātā svayam Vāthasā*
sthētunī vra(bra)hmanidhā pur-īva ghatitā mōkhasya sankhyaṇya cha |
 3 *vra(bra)hmaḥ kī-cha bhavanī yatra pitarah prī-āny-āvāmanah pāda-sprishṭa-jala-prodāna*
vidhinā nā-āgana-āyakaḥ || [2*] *Āyān va(ba)-*
 4 *bhūva purī vakra-gatī-dvijāya-sarpaḥ-bhujāga-rjpur-Achyuta-pāda-sāvi* | *yō nāma*
Viśvuratha-vat-dvija-rāja-varyaḥ prītyā satām cha Pa-

* The following passage is engraved below the concluding part of the previous line.

* There is a floral design after this.

* From the *fundula* in Banerji's *The Palas of Bengal*, Plate XXXI(a).

* Pa has got an unnecessary *A-udā*.

- 2 ra¹-hrīdayam-aṅghrō haratu vah || [1*] Āsandhāy-ākalaśākāṇ= p[ri]ativapusha iva Vra(Brā)-
hnapāc-Avja(bja)jannā evargga-dvār-ādhirūḥṣma(u-a)m[ri]ta-pada-sukha-prā[pta]yā
prōtya-bhāṣāh(jah) | ākshāt-saṁsāra-bhūṣhā[ma] ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 3 erāma²-bhūmim kuśvat-trailōkyā-lakṣmī-nīlayam-iva pu[ṣṭā] śrī-Gayām-śha chakrō ||
[3*] Gayāyām-āśayām pūti sakala-saundarya-nīlayō(yō) [d]vijātinām mānyō [d]vija-
padā[ntōj]-iva ~ ~ ~ [1*] ~ ~ ~
- 4 ma-prēmā parama-paritōṣhasya jananū(nā)ḍ-ābhūḍ-dhanyāḥ śrīmān-sa khala Paritōṣh-
āhvasya iti || [3*] Tasmād-ābhū[ḍ]-jalanidhāt-iva āttaraśmih śrī-Sa(Sa)[dra]kō vimala-
kāntir-ananta-lakṣmī³ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 5 karṇya-saṁb-ābhīrāmam-ānanditāni yataśā bhuvan-āntarāṅgi || [4*] Āśdy-[ā]matardja-
rājya-padaśmih dēvibhīr-ākrīḍitāḥ divy-ātmatram-aunaga-darṇya-dalan-ōḍgār-aiha-
mōdam vapa⁴ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 6 riti⁵-kāntuka-rasān-marittyē⁶-vatirṇṇas-tatō jātō dēva-kumāta-mūrttir-asamaḥ śrī-Vīśvarāp-
āhvasya || [5*] [Yō] vidhvasta-samasta-vairi-nivahāḥ sphūrya(rja)t-pratāp-ānalah saujanya-
sya nidhāna ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 7 ma-kālī-drumaḥ | al[ā]ndr-ā[na]nda-mayō nisargga-madhura-tyāhāra-ra[tnā]kārō dīn-ānātha-
vipanna-chāraṇa-gu[ṇa]-trā[ṇā]ya Chintāmaṇi || [6*] Gaṇḍasthalē toriganad-āmala-
pattā-bhāṣāṇ-evaiva[r]thj ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 8 Ikṣhantībhī | ady-āpi yasya sara-kinnara-gīyamānāḥ dōvyāḥ śilṣu vijaya-stutim-ālikṣhanti ||
[7*] Dha(r)ma[ṇ]a-ōḍva(chekhva)śitadī mudā vihaivadh(tak) sa[1*]-lōka-maryādayā
trayā viaphuritāḥ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 9 [r]jātibhī⁷-jīrmbhitāḥ(tam) | yasmīn(ā)śmīn svāmīni [sar]vataḥ samodayō tē-py-arīhīnaḥ
n-ālikṣhantāḥ śāndr-ā[na]ndamayāḥ sva-dānya-virahān-apityanti pūṇṇ-āśayāḥ || [5*]
N-ōchekhaḥ-chaṇḍa-karō na th-āpi vigata ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 10 tē n-āślam yāti jad-ātmanbhīḥ prāśhatō n-ānyair-ayō[rev-ōḍbha]vah || [1*] kīṇ-ch-[ā]prāma-
vimā[na]śah | pratimuhur-no-āpy-asthīrō na gūhī n-āiv-āśāṅga-digamva(mhā)ṇ-aika-
niratō yō Vīśvarūpaḥ ~ ~ ~ [1*] ~ ~ ~
- 11 marādhīpō⁸-pi chakīṭō Vra(Brā)hm-āpi yad-riemītō dōvō Vīśvar-āpi sphatāḥ vihaśītō
Rudrō-pi rūmāśchitāḥ | uddāma-[pra]varat-prasanna-ra(ha)hālō yat-kī[rt]i-kallōlini
gambhīr-āmbhāsi ma[jja] ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 12 p[ri] samvō(bō)dhitāḥ || [10*] Yad-ā[na]rggamāḥ zatati dūrataram darāpam yach-chāśas-āpi
na dhītam padam-āśam-ā[śit] | | mī(lha)ṁ samastam-achir-āhata-vat-tad-asyām-
Arambharāma iti yah sphatātām-up[ā]h || [11*] Aśyām ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 13 yām dharmōṇa maryādayā rājya-śrībhīr-alamkṛitāḥ punar-amī bhōg-āikadhā-v[ri]tta[ya]h |
n-āpu[r-dhā]jma nisargga-[va]rṇa-va(ha)hala[ṇ-tyāg]-ōḍayām-ōḍbhataḥ śrī-Vīśvādhipa
śha kīrtana-kathā ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

¹ The intended word here may be Śaśāra or Gaṇḍāhara.

² Possibly the word is rāḍma.

³ The original had apparently lakṣmī | Here.

⁴ Apparently vapuḥ | was engraved here.

⁵ Probably the intended word is āvā.

⁶ The intended word may be sat-śitāḥ.

⁷ Probably r-ōḍ, mīḥ or lōgūḥ was the intended word.

⁸ Apparently mar-ādhīpō is the intended expression.

5. Inscription of Yakshapāla

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 २२

Scale : One-third

- 14 || (12*) Kirttir=[a]v dhā(ha)sa(su)viana[r-i]kara ~ — 1 s-tyāgō=pi śaury-ōdayan(yō)
m[ā]riti-ārī=api rā[ra] || [pa]rikha[ga]t[ā] dha[rma]-pi ya[d-ga]raṇaḥ | nirvyōdhiḥ
punar-ādriḥ bhavati kim āri-Viśvarūpādhipā[di]tō rākha-eva pratipa ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 15 yath-aish-ādhibutā || (13*) Asy-aiva Prapitāmahasya mahatim=[a]tāpāya kirtim [varām]
[tan-mā]dhy-ādhipatā[m*] prapitya na chitād-ā[nā]tanah(nam) sō(sō)dhitā | addhitya
ātha nisargya-dharmma-niratō yō ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 16 sa va(ba)hna addhim-anayat=tām=eva kirtit[ā] punah || (14*) Kim vrū(brū)mō guṇinō=pi
śadma navam=[ātā] mahyatasya śtu[ti(tē)s-ta]vy-āyōdha-guṇasya n=āsti maha[ta]h
paryanta-bhū-samstarah | kin-ta ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 17 rāhī sa Viśv-ādhipō yōn-ākasmika-vismayēna mukharō lōkah ka[tha] [m*] vā[g]-ya[mā]h ||
(15*) Yād-ākānta[m*] divyair-aspidubhir-atichitrair-anivasanāh sphurad-dhār-āsārah
visrīja ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ||*
- 18 vy-āmva(mba)ra-ruchira-viśhīrvva(r-bba)humatō jagad-dāridry-āgni-prasamana-sudhā-
śandra-jaladah || (16*) Gāthēśah Kanakōśvarō=mvu(mbu)jabhavaḥ āri-Viśvarūpōśvarō
Gangetā=tha śa ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ||*
- 19 tya-[Ga]lādharau evvhitah āri-Śuklabhānus-tathā Gīddhātāh su-Janāśōdanō='kahayavatō
dēvō Vatōś-āhvayah || (17*) Ity-ādyāh s[va]-manō-murōps-rachanā-rākha ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 20 ||¹ nripah | yōn-ātyadbhuta-vikramōga tarasā śrīmad-Gayā-maṇḍanō ā=sathāram-
ndagra-dharmma-vijaya-stambhā iv-ārōpitāh || (18*) Tēn-ā[p] ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 21 || vasmati-hār-āval-iv-ādhibutā | kirtit[ā] śvōtagabhasi-hasta-rachit-ōva dhvratihā² rā-
jātāh dēvāya Prapitāmahasya mahatī āri-[Vi]³ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ || (19*) ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 22 [ti]nām-ādhipās-tath-aiva dhāminah kimvā(kim vā) va(ba)hu vrū(brū)mahō | kin-ta-
idrig=yadi kirttanah bhagavatah kōn-āpi nishpāditah āri-Viśv-ādhi ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 23 [sa]h svarggāya mōksh-āptayō yāvach-chandra-divākaran Sumerid-dhātī nabhō-maṇḍ-
alan[ā]rah | kirttan kīrti-kadamva(mba)kasya vijay āri-Viśvarūp-āhvay[ō] ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
- 24 [ma]hi-[guṇ-ālam]kārītāyā bhuvō bharttur-Vigrahapālādēva nripatō=ājāh[ā] āriyāh vi-
(b)hīrātah || anuprāptō taras-aiva pañcha-gaṇitō rājyasya samva(samva)tsa⁴
~ ~ ~ ~ ~ || (20*) ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

¹ These two syllables were omitted through oversight.

² The intended expression may be *śa-śrīv-ādhipā*.

³ The intended word seems to be *śāntatā*.

⁴ The word here seems to be *Viśvarōpa*.

⁵ The word here seems to be *Vīśv-ādhipā*.

⁶ The first eight syllables of the stanza may have been *śāśr-ādhipā/śā-śrīv-ādhipā* as in the Gayā inscription of the fifteenth regnal year of Nāyapāla, which the author has imitated in writing verses 22, 23.

⁷ The intended word is apparently *śāntatā*.

25 'Viśvāditya-guṇ-śakṣa(r)sha-prīti-stimite-chāśaś |

26 praśasti-vibhāśa ch-āśaś Vaidya-śrī-Dharmas[pā]ṇ(nā) [] [23*]

5. Inscription of Yakṣhapāla

The inscription, containing 22 lines of writing and covering an area about 44 cms. in length and 31 cms. in height, begins with the *maṅgala*: *Ō namo Śūryāya*, which is followed by 14 verses constituting a *praśasti*. There is reference to the person who 'wrote' the inscription in a passage in prose occurring at the end of the document.

Verse 1 is in adoration of the Sun-god. It is interesting to note that, though the *maṅgala* at the beginning and verse 1 of the record refer to the Sun-god, the object of the inscription was to record the erection of a temple for several deities as well as some other pious activities of Yakṣhapāla (cf. verse 13). But Maunāditya, mentioned at the head of the list of the deities, was probably an image of the Sun-god. The said list of deities contains also a second name ending in the word *āditya*, viz. Vijayāditya.

Verse 2 refers to the flights of steps for reaching [the head of] the **Phalgu** and [the trunk of] the **Vata** (i.e. the Akshaya-vata) at **Gayā**. In this verse, Kielhorn wrongly read *Phalgu-tapa* (i.e. the bank of the Phalgu river) in place of *Phalgu-Vata* (i.e. the Phalgu and the Vata). Verse 3 mentions a heroic resident of Gayā, named **Sūdraka** who was honoured by the king of **Gauḍa** with the insignia of royalty (*śrīpati-lakṣhaṇa*), i.e. acknowledged him as the subordinate ruler of Gayā. Paritōṣha, father of Sūdraka, is not mentioned in this record. Sūdraka's son, the *śrīpa* (ruler) **Viśvarūpa**, is introduced in verse 4 as a successful fighter against his enemies. Verses 5-7 continue the description of Viśvarūpa, the last stanza referring to the numerous temples built by him.

Verse 8 introduces the ruling chief **Yakṣhapāla** as the son of Viśvarūpa, while the next stanza (verse 9) refers to his physical charm and military prowess. His description is continued in verses 10-11, the first of these referring to Yakṣhapāla as a *śarādho* or ruler. Verse 12 states that Yakṣhapāla built a temple for housing the gods Maunāditya (Sun-god), Sahasraliṅga (Śiva), Kamalā (Lakṣmī), Ardhāṅgīya (Ardhanārīyaiva Śiva), Nārāyaṇa, two Sōmśivara, Phalguāthya, Vijayāditya and Kūdārsivara and that he excavated the Uttaramānasa (i.e. a lake of that name) and established a *sutra* or free feeding house at **Akshaya-vata** (i.e. near the Akshaya-vata). Kielhorn read the concluding passage wrongly and failed to recognise the reference to the Akshaya-vata therein. What he read in this stanza as *Deivomānasa*, regarded as the name of a deity, is really *dei-Sōmśivara*, referring to two deities called Sōmśivara. The passage *Kamal-Ardhāṅgīya Nārāyaṇa*, has been taken in Kielhorn's translation as two deities, viz. Kamalā and Ardhāṅgīya, Nārāyaṇa being omitted apparently through oversight. It is difficult to say whether the poet intended the expression *Kamal-Ardhāṅgīya* to be an adjective of Nārāyaṇa in the sense of 'one half of whose body is Kamalā'. Although such a conception is possible on the analogy of the Ardhannārīyavara form of Śiva in which the right half represents Śiva and the left half Pārvatī, a similar combined form of Nārāyaṇa and Kamalā is not known from sculptures.

Verse 13 prays for the long life of the *kīrti* (i.e. the temple, the lake and the free-feeding house) of **Yakṣhapāla** while verse 14, with which the *praśasti* concludes, mentions the Brāhmana **Murāri**, who was a student of Nyāya philosophy and belonged to a family hailing from **Āḡi-grāma** as the author of the *praśasti*. A passage in prose at the end refers to the inscription being written by Padmapāṇi. By 'writing', probably the writing of the record on the stone for facilitating the work of engraving was intended.

* Lines 23-26 are engraved in the central section.

- 17 rthān || [10*] Yād-dhṛit-padma-kutiraka-praṇayitām-āpādītā Śrīpatan supritā-vyabhihāra-
(r)hṛitva-ratayā bhaktyā parikṛdita(ni)(tam) | arthibhyō vi-
- 18 niyuktay-āp)=anudinam pātrē śuchau jātayā mat-mā(avā)mi-priya-vān ścha itī yaḥ kṛ-
mam Śrīyā samśī(śrī)taḥ || [11*] Maunāditya-Sahana(ara)hāga-
- 19 Kamaḥ-Ā[+*]ddhāgīṇa-Nārāyaṇa-dvi-Sōmēśvara¹-Phalgunātha-Vijayāditya-śhvayānām
kṛit | sa pra(prā)śādamam(m=a)chikarad-divishadā(ni) Kādāradava(sya)
- 20 cha khyātasy-**Ottaramānasasya** khaṇanām sātṛatū(tīratū) **Vaṭṭ** ch-ākshayā² || [12*] Sūryā-
chandramasau yāvad-yāvat-kshōṇi sa-sāgarā | tāvat śrī³-Yakṣhapālasya nā-
- 21 jantām bhūvi kīrttayah || [13*] Nṛāya-vidyāvidām śrēyān-**Āgi-grāma-kul-odbhavaḥ** | śrī-
Murāris=dviṇa-śrēṣṭhaḥ pri(pra)śastim=akarōḍ=imām(mām) || [14*] [khit-ā[sau]
- 22 [śrī-Padmapāṇinā]* [U*]

¹ This is materially defective. Possibly the author was thinking of *śrī-Śaṅkara* or *śrī-Saṅkara*. Kiel-
born reads *śrī-śa* and.

² Kielborn reads *śrī-śa* and.

³ Read *śrī-śa* and.

⁴ This is joined in small characters below the concluding part of line 21. Buserj. read *śrī-śa* and *śa* which
had been left out by Kielborn.

No. 12—JODHPUR PLATES OF THE TIME OF DURLABHARAJA, VIKRAMADITYA

(1 Plate)

B. CH. CHAKRA, NEW DELHI

(Received on 14. 6. 1961)

The two copper plates that make up the land grant edited below are said to be in the possession of Mr. Sampat Singh Jain of Jodhpur, Rajasthan, and were examined by me along with the plate of Simharāja, dated Vikrama 1004, published above.¹ As stated there, the first of the three plates is probably Rihimāl in the Jalore District of the Jodhpur Division.

The ring and the seal pertaining to these two plates are not forthcoming. Other record on them is complete. The first of the two plates measures 21 × 12½ cm., and the second 21 × 13 cm. Together they weigh 720 grams. Each of them contains 10 lines of writing in Devanāgarī script. The last line is comparatively very short. The alphabet is Devanāgarī of the 10th century to which the record belongs. The language is Sanskrit and the composition is in prose. The two customary verses towards the end.

As regards orthography the following points may be noted: as a rule, *anuvāsa* is used in place of *para-samarga*, the exceptions being as in 'śāntāpāda' in line 3; *r* before *r* is in some cases reduplicated as in *Kaṭhāriyapada* in lines 3 and 8, *brāhṇa* in line 5, etc.; *a* common is very often reduplicated; *ḍ* is invariably indicated by the sign for *ṣ*; the sign of *anuvāsa* is in *vidiṭa-śāntā* in line 15. In *anuvāsa-śāntā* in line 4 and *anuvāsa* in line 13, *a* is wrongly written as *ā*. Similarly *yā* is used for *ya* in *gāyatrī* in line 7.

The object of the inscription is to register the perpetual gift of a village, called *Kaṭhāriyapada*, in the district (*maṇḍala*) of *Bhīlāmāla*, by the illustrious *Kaṭhāmarāja*, *Chakrapāṇi* or Chief of Administration (*Tantrapāṇi*) under *Mahārājādhirāja*, the illustrious *Durlabhārāja*, son of *Girīnātha*, belonging to the *Lohāyana-gotra*, having then a student of the *Vājīmādhyaśāstra* and an inhabitant of *Bhīlāmāla*, on the occasion of a lunar eclipse (*śāntā-grahana*), for the increase of the religious merit and fame of the donor's person and of himself. The donor had had a holy bath and had worshipped *Mahādeva* before making the gift. The date of the record is mentioned at the end as the 13th day of the bright half of the month of *Māgha* in the [Vikrama] year 1069, which corresponds to Thursday, the 29th of March 1013 A.D. when there was a lunar eclipse as stated in line 5 of the record to be the occasion of the gift. It is also stated in the record that *Kaṭhāmarāja* gave away the said village on the occasion of the eclipse (*śāntā-grahana*), comprising the district or sub-division (*maṇḍala*) of *Bhīlāmāla*. *Bhīlāmāla* was obviously so named after the chief town of that name, which was also the capital of the donor, and is identical with the modern *Bhimmal*. Again, the gift had the approval of the ruling monarch (*Mahārājādhirāja*) *Durlabhārāja*, as specially stated in the conclusion of the record. The sign-manual was also intended to be put but is absent.

The question arises as to who this *Mahārājādhirāja* *Durlabhārāja* was. Considering the place of the record is obviously the same as figures in the Jodhpur plate of *Simharāja*, there is a marked similarity in the script and phraseology of both the records, it is but natural to conclude that *Simharāja* and *Durlabhārāja* belong to one and the same dynasty. Unfortunately the present record does not specifically mention the name of the royal family to which *Durlabhārāja* belonged. As for the other record, it might have mentioned *Simharāja*'s dynasty in the conclusion, but that part of the record being missing, it was not possible to ascertain his dynasty.

¹ Above, pp. 45-46 and Plate.

² See Bhattacharya's *Lit.*, No. 1509.

I tentatively identified him with the Chāhamāna Simharāja. *Prima facie* there is no difficulty in identifying our Durlabharāja also with the Chāhmāna Durlabharāja, who was in fact the second of Simharāja's four sons, the eldest being Vigharāja and the other two (younger than Durlabharāja) being Chandrarāja and Gōvindarāja. These identifications would, however, upset the hitherto accepted views, regarding the reign periods of some of the Chāhamāna rulers, and certain other historical details. While these we propose to discuss in a separate paper, it may be observed here that the possibility of our Durlabharāja being identical with the ruler of that name belonging to the Chaulukyas of Anahilapātaka, who was matrimonially connected with the Chāhamāna house, is not precluded.

Curiously enough, another copper charter from Bhīnmāl itself, bearing the same date, is known, but that pertains to Dēvarāja who is supposed to be a Paramāra ruler of Mērwār, better known as Mahipāla.¹ The so-called Paramāra sway around Bhīnmāl at the same time adds to our confusion.

TEXT²

First Side

- 1 Om³ svasti | Rājashatas iva vimal-ōbhaya-pakṣaṣ mahārājādhirāja-śrī-Du-
- 2 rlabharāja-pāda-padma-ōpaśīvi tathāpālā-śrī-Kaḥemārājāḥ sva-bhuḥyamāna-
- 3 śrī Bhīllamāla-mahādai-āntahpālī-Kṣhattriyapadma-grāmā samupagātān-sarvān-ōva
- 4 rājapuruṣhān-brāhmaṇ-ōttarān-prativāsinō janapadān-ānyāśchecha(i-cha) bōdhaya-
- 5 ty-astu vō viditāḥ yathā-śamābhūḥ Sōma-grahapē snātṛvā tīrthōk-gurūḥ Mahā-
- 6 dēvam-abhayaḥ matta-kari-karṇa-chandchālām-abhivṛkṣhya lakṣmīḥ girinādi-vē-
- 7 g-ōpanaṣṭh yo(yau)vanasḥ ttri(tri)ṇa-dala-gata-jala-vimdv-ālōḥ-līlāḥ jivitam-ava-
- 8 lūkyā ch-āyam Kṣhattriyapadma-grāmāḥ sva-śmā-jaryantāḥ sa-kāshṭha-ttri(tri)ṇa-yūti-
- 9 gōchata-paryantāḥ sa-bhāga-bhōgāḥ s-ōparikarāḥ sa-damda-dai-āparādhaḥ pūrya-
- 10 datta-dēvadāya-brāhma(hma)dāya-vah(va)rjjah Vra(Brā)hmaṇa-Nannakāya

Second Plate

- 11 Gōvishada-śānavē Vājimādhyasḥ | ' | dīna-sa-vra(bra)hmachāripē ttri-pravarā-
- 12 ya-lōbhāṇa-as-gōrāya śrī-Bhīllamāla-vīśatavyāya mātā-pittrōj-āma-
- 13 nās-cha pūgya-yaśō(śō)-bhivṛddhayaḥ para-lōka-phalam-adigkṛit-ā-chand-ā(rīk)-āraṇ-
- 14 va-kāṣṭhi-sama-kāṣṭhatayā śāsanān-ōdaka-pūrvvāḥ parayā bhaktiyā
- 15 pratipādītō viditv-ā'amad-vandajair-ānyāś-cha bhōvi-bhōktrībhīr-anu-
- 16 pālanīyah || uktaḥ cha || Bahubhīr-vrasandhā bhuktā rājabhūḥ Sagat-ābhībhūḥ ||⁴
- 17 yasya yasya yadā bhūmī-tasya tasya tadā phalūḥ | Vīndhy-ājavābhv-atō-
- 18 yāsu lūkhā-kōṭara-vāsināḥ ||⁵ kṛishṇa-sarpāḥ prajāyuntē brāhmadāy-ā-
- 19 pahārakāḥ || samvat 1069 Māgha-śudi 15 śrī-Durlabharāj-Ājāyām(yā)
- 20 dattam sva-hastam cha ||⁶

¹ Bhandarkar (List No. 103; see also p. 306) equates the *śam-grahapē* (lunar eclipse) of Samvat 1069 Māgha-śudi 15 of this charter with Wednesday, the 14th January 1012 A.D. Swaminathan Pillai's *Indian Epigraphy* would, however, show that the correct equation would be Thursday, 29th January, 1013 A.D. While this article was going through the press, Dr. B. K. Das kindly drew my attention to the fact that the said copper charter had subsequently been published under the title 'Kopi Plates of Paramāra Dēvarāja' above, Vol. XXII, pp. 196-98. Its editor, Pandit R. N. D. S., reads the date as Samvat 1059, and not 1069.

² From the original plates.

³ Expressed by symbol.

⁴ These two single dots indicate the gap caused by the ring hole.

⁵ This is followed by a cross sign.

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ १ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ २ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ३ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ४ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ५ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ६ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ७ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ८ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ९ ॥
 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ १० ॥

विदुः कवचान्माग्रा ॥ विकस्य वृद्धावापि लुप्तिवत् ॥
यन्मद्वैकमन्त्राश्चमयी किं लभन्त वास्य ग्राहमात्राधिभाम्भ
कं पुण्यदृष्ट्या किं दृष्ट्य परलोके फलमंगीरुया वंदाओपु
॥ त्रिभुवनकोषो न चाशास्त्रकाले कस्यैव प्रदुः पश्यन्त्या
प्रतिपादिता विदितोऽस्य दंशकिं न कुशला निना शक्तिरु
॥ लोकोद्यन्ता उज्ज्वला वरुणिर्घसुपा कुको गजदिः बजरादिभि
॥ यद्यपि यद्यपि यद्यपि यद्यपि यद्यपि यद्यपि यद्यपि यद्यपि
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(from Photographs)

No. 13—KADALUR GRANT OF MARASIMHA II, SAKA 884

(3 Plates)

G. S. GAI, OOTACAMUND

(Received on 11. 11. 1959)

The set of copper plates containing the inscription edited below was received in 1934-35 in the Office of the Superintendent for Epigraphy, Madras, from the Secretary of the Historical Research Society, Dharwar.¹ The set consists of **nine** thick plates, each measuring about 11" by 5·3". They are held together by a ring (5·75" in diameter) passing through a ring-hole (about ·8" in diameter) at the left margin of the plates. The circular seal (3" in diameter) bears in full relief and facing the proper right, the figure of an elephant (about ·63" in thickness). The thickness of the copper-plates ranges from ·12" to ·18". The weight of the set, together with the ring and the seal, is 872 *tolas* while the ring and the seal weigh 120 *tolas*.

The first and last plates have been engraved on the inner side only while the remaining seven plates bear writing on both sides. The first plate has 11 lines of writing; but the remaining 15 sides of the eight plates have 12 lines each. Thus there are 191 lines of writing in all. The engraving is bold, beautiful and neat and there is a flourishing touch to the letters in the last line on each side of the plates. The last three lines (i.e. lines 189-91) which are in the nature of a supplement, have been written in a rather indifferent hand over an erasure. The writing is in an excellent state of preservation.

The characters are Telugu-Kannaḍa of the 10th century A.D. and resemble in all respects those of the Kadalur plates² of Gaṅga Mārasimha II who issued the present plates. The initial vowels *a*, *ā*, *i*, *ī*, *u* and *ū* as well as final *l* and final *n* occur each several times in the inscription. The *Upadhānūya* sign occurs in line 103. Regarding orthography, it is interesting to observe that *l*, when single in the intervocalic position, is written in almost all the cases as *l*. Even initial *l* is likewise written in *Ḷḷakadhūrttaḷ* (line 30). *S* for *ś* appears in *Sarat* (line 82). *B* for *v* in *garbha* (lines 71, 82) and *ri* for *ṛi* in *riśā* (line 157) may be as well regarded as a linguistic feature. Considering the length of the document, it is remarkably free from errors both in regard to orthography and language.

The language of the record is Sanskrit except in lines 167-77 and 189-91 dealing with the description of the boundaries and a sentence at the end giving the name of the headman, which are written in Kannaḍa with an admixture of Sanskrit. The text is composed in verse and prose in the *chamṇū* style. There are fifty-two verses in various metres which show the poet's predilection for the *Śārdūlavikīṛṇita* metre. In verse 9, which is in *Uṭpalamālikā*, the poet has introduced the *Hayaprāsa* of the Kannaḍa prosody by having a similar conjunct consonant in the second syllable of each quarter. The composition is of considerable literary merit and the author has freely indulged in the use of *alaṅkāras* in the verses and of long compounds in the prose-portion. Both the author and the engraver, who have preferred to remain anonymous, have earned the gratitude of scholars by accomplishing their job in a satisfactory manner.

The date of the record is given in lines 159-61 and 164, as Śaka 884, Dandubhi, Pausaḥa. 9, Tuesday, Svāti-nakṣatra, Kanyā-lagna and Uttarāyana Saṅkrānti. This would

¹ It is registered as No. 23 of Appendix A in the *A.E. Ep.*, 1934-35, and briefly noticed in the same report, Part II, pp. 57-58.

² *Mys. Arch. Rep.*, 1921, pp. 18 ff.

regularly correspond to the 23rd December, 962 A.D. The date is only a few months earlier than that of the Kudalur plates referred to above, which are dated Śaka 884, Radhirōdgārī, Chaitra śu. 5, Wednesday. The cyclic year Radhirōdgārī corresponded to Śaka 885 expired, the corresponding English date being the 3rd March 963 A.D., though the weekday was Tuesday instead of Wednesday.

The inscription belongs to the Gaṅga chief Mārasimha II and, like his Kudalur plates, is one of the longest and the latest of the Western Gaṅga records. The introductory portion, covering lines 1-122 and verses 1-32, giving the genealogy of the Gaṅga kings from Koṅguni-varma-Dharma-mahādhirāja up to Mārasimha II is similar in contents to the Kudalur plates edited by R. Narasimha-chār who has discussed them in details. Verses 33-36, devoted to the description of the donor Mārasimha II, are not found in the Kudalur plates while the six verses and the lengthy prose portion describing him in the latter record are not given in our inscription. We learn from verse 33 that Mārasimha II was the son of Kallabhā who was the daughter of Sirhavarman of the Chālukya lineage. Verses 22, 27 and 28 inform us that Mārasimha's father Bātuga II also married Rāvakanimmaji, the daughter of Rāshtrakūṭa Baddega (Amoghavarsha III), and had by her a son called Maruḷadēva who married the daughter of Kṛishṇa III. Bātuga had a third wife named Paddabbarasi according to an inscription from Naregal in the Dharwar District.¹ Thus he had three wives named Rāvakanimmaji, Kallabhā and Paddabbarasi. The Kudalur plates inform us that Mārasimha II was crowned as the ruler of Gaṅgavāḍi personally by Kṛishṇa III on the eve of his northern expedition to conquer Aivapati or the Gūrjara king. We know that Mārasimha was not only the feudatory of Kṛishṇa III but also of the latter's successors Khoṭṭiga² and Amoghavarsha IV Rakka.³

Verses 37-44 describe the spiritual ancestry of the Jaina teacher Ēlāchārya who was the donee of the gift. Prabhāchandra was the chief pontif of the Digambara sect of Sūrastā-gaṇa in the Mālasaṅgha. He was well versed in all the Śāstras. His disciple was Kaluśadēva who was the preceptor of Ravichandra. The latter's disciple was Ravinandadēva, the preceptor of Ēlāchārya.

Verse 45 and the following lengthy passage in prose in lines 151-66 refer to the gift of the village Kādālūr in Koṅgal-dēśa made to the said Ēlāchārya by Mārasimha II for providing for worship and offerings in the Jinālaya constructed by the chief's mother Kallabhā and also for worshipping of rudhā-chitra (stucco paintings) and chitra (paintings) as well as for the four kinds of jānar to the Jaina deities and ascetics.

The grant is stated to have been made when the military camp (*śibira*) of Mārasimha was at Mēlpāṭi which is probably the same as Mēlpāṭi in the Chittoor District in Andhra Pradesh. Three years before the date of this grant, the Rāshtrakūṭa king Kṛishṇa III also encamped at Mēlpāḍi as known from his Kared plates of May 959 A.D.⁴

Lines 167-77 describe the boundaries of the gift village as follows : in the east, the big stony hillock to the east of the Keṅgoli lake ; further on to the south, the bank or mound (*dīpa*) called Sōḍiyāla ; further on, the path of black-stones ; further on, the heap of stones ; further on, [the locality called] Patture ; further on, the bank or mound at the back side of the stony hillock of Belgalla ; further on, the hillock called Eyyuṅṅal ; in the south-east, [the place of] round stones ; further on, in the western direction, the hill called Uḃyam ; in the south, the hillock of the chips of stones and black-stones ; further on, the bank or mound of Baḷavaga ; further on, the

¹ A. R. Ep., 1926-27, App. No. A182 ; *SIH.*, Vol. XI, Part. 1 (B. K. Inscriptions, Vol. 1, Part. 3), No. 38.

² Above, Vol. XXXIV, pp. 618.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, pp. 270 ff.

⁴ Above, Vol. IV, p. 281.

heap of stones on the road to Maysûr; further on, in the south-west corner, the bank or mound called Kêra; then moving to the north, in the west, the stony hillock called Kosagu; further on, the heap of stones of the bank or mound of Bhagavati on the road to Nokkiyûr; further on, moving straight along the black stones, the hillock of black-stones; further in the north-west, the bank or mound of Bhagavati; further on, in the north, [the place called] Tavalikal; further on, the bank or mound to the north of Paralikere; further on, the wall to the north of Gâravadigere; in the north-east corner, the junction of the stream coming from the hillock of the black stones with the stream of Keṅgoli.

Verse 46 in lines 177-79 relates to the request of the Gaṅga chief, viz. Mārasimha, made to the future kings of the Gaṅga family to protect the gift. Line 180 states that the subjects of the 96,000-division (i.e. Gaṅgavāḍi) were the witnesses to the gift. Then follow five benedictory and imprecatory stanzas (verses 47-51) in lines 180-88. Verse 52 (lines 186-88) invokes the blessings of Lakṣmi on the Gaṅga chief. Lines 189-91 which are engraved on an erasure mention the boundaries of the Kōgil-nāḍu and the name of the headman of that nāḍu or division. Kōgil-nāḍu is apparently a mistake for Keṅgal-nāḍu or Keṅgal-dēsa in which the gift-village Kādālûr was located. The boundaries of this nāḍu are given as follows: in the east, the rivulet or stream of Māḡikavoḷai; in the south, the Kāvêri river; in the west, the place called Bāḷeyapaḷḷa; and in the north, the Perṇṇa (i.e. Pennar) river. The name of the nāḷ-garuḍa is given as Permāḍi-gāruḍa.

Kādālûr, the village granted, may be identified with the place of the same name in the Mandya Taluk of the Mysore District. The area round about this place apparently corresponded to Keṅgal-dēsa which extended upto the Kāvêri in the south and Pennar in the north. The place Maysûru mentioned in connection with the boundaries is apparently the modern Mysore and the present record supplies the earliest epigraphical reference to this place. I am unable to identify the other places mentioned in connection with the description of the boundaries.

TEXT¹

[Metres: verses 1, 4, 7, 13-16, 18-19, 23-24, 35, 52 *Sruṅgharā*; verses 2, 5, 12, 22 *Vasanta-lakā*; verses 3, 8, 10, 13-14, 17, 21, 25, 32-34, 36-37, 41-42, 44-46 *Śārdūlavikīrṇita*; verses 6, 30 *Mālinī*; verse 9 *Uṭpalamālikā* or *Kāmalatā*; verse 11 *Śikharigī*; verses 20, 39 *Indrasujrā*; Verses 26-27 *Āryyā*; verses 28-29 *Prakarāṣiṇī*; verses 31, 38, 40, 43, 47-50 *Aśvaśukā*; verse 51 *Sālinī*.]

First Plate

- 1 Siddham² [I*] Svasti jitaṁ bhagavatā gata-ghana-gaganābhāna Padmanābhāna [I*] Śrīma)-
Jāhnavēya kuḷ-āmaḷa-vyōm-āva-
- 2 bhāsana-bhāskaraḥ sva-khaḍg-nika-prahāra-khaṇḍita-tiḷā³-staṇḍha-labha-baḷa-parākramā
dāruḇ-āri-gaḷa-vidāraḇ-ō-
- 3 palabha-vraṇa-vibhūṣaṇa-vibhūṣitaḥ Ka(KA)uvāyana-mgōtraḥ śrīmān Kōṭṭigupā-
varma-dharoma-mahādhirā-
- 4 jah | tat-putraḥ pitur-anvāgata-guṇa-yuktō vidyā-vinaya-vihita-vṛttāḥ samyak-prajā-
pālana-mātr-ā-

¹ From impressions.

² Expressed by symbol.

³ Some records have maḷā-tiḷā here.

- 5 dhigata-rājya-prayōjanō vidvat-kavi-kāmchana-nikash-ōpaśa-bhūtō nīti-sāstrasya vakti-
prayōkti-kusāśō Datto-
- 6 kasūtra-vṛttirēḥ prapētō śrīmān-**Mādhava-mahādhirājah** | tat-putrah pitṛi-paitāmaha-
guna-yu-
- 7 kṛtō-nēka-chāturdanta-yuddh-āvāpta-chatur-udadhi-salil-āsvādīta-yasāḥ śrīmad-**Dhāri-
varmma-mahādhi-**
- 8 rājah tat-putrō dvija-guru-dēvatā-pūjana-pacō Nārāyaṇa-charaṇ-ānuddhyātah śrīmān-
Viṣṇugōpa-mahādhirō-
- 9 jah tat-putras-Tryambaka-charaṇ-āmbhōruha-rajah pavitrikṛit-ōttamāṅgah sva-bhūja-bala-
parākrama-kṛaya-kriyitā¹-rājyah
- 10 Kālīyuga-bala-paṭik-āvasanna-dharmma-vyish-ōddharana-nitya-sannaddhah śrīmān-**Mādha-
va-mahādhirājah** | tat-putrah śrīmat-**Kadam-**
- 11 ba-kuja-gagana-gabhaṣṭimālinah **Kṛishṇavarma-mahādhirājasya** priya-bhāgināyō vidyā-
vinay-ātīśaya-paripō-

Second Plate, First Side

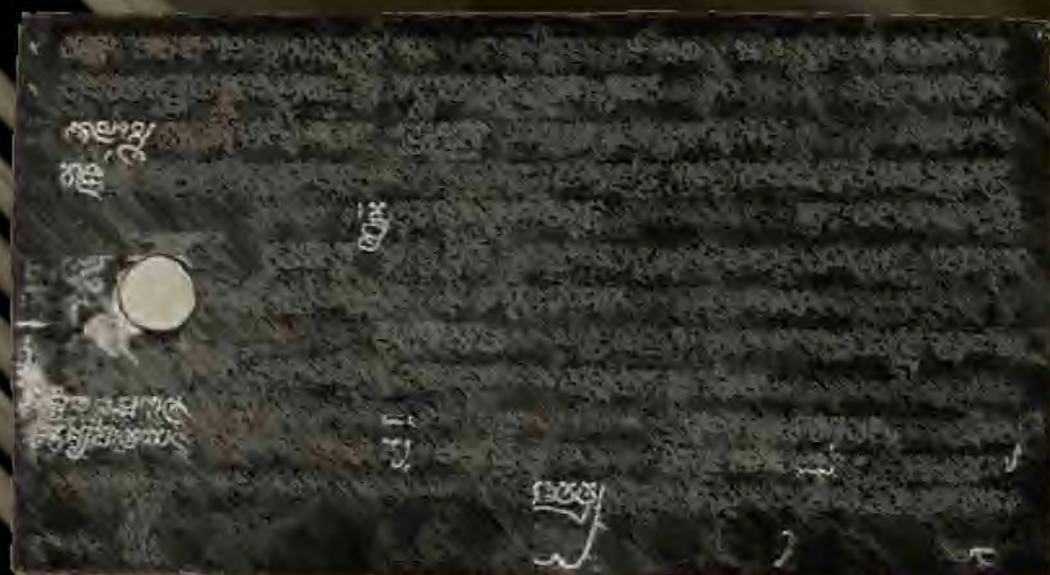
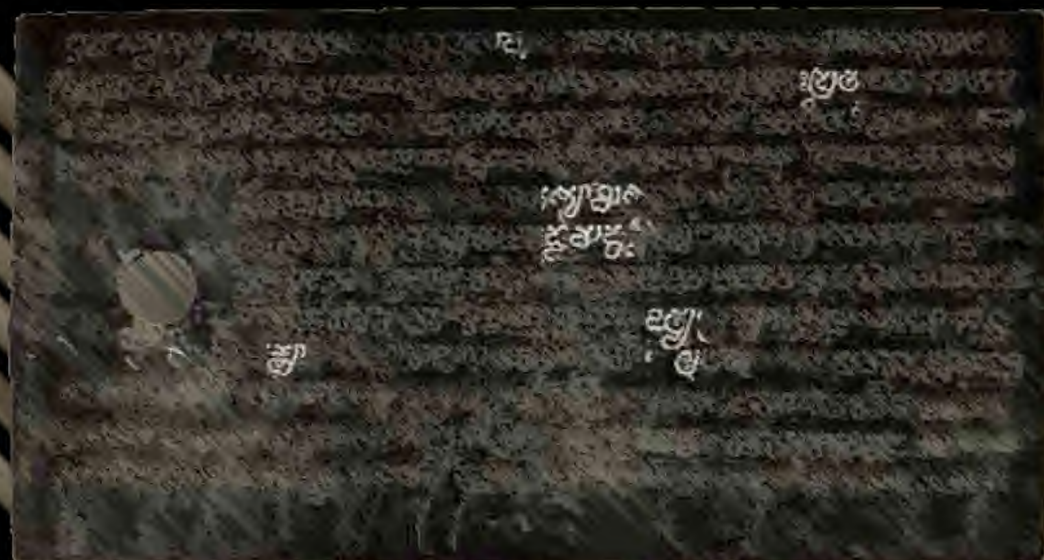
- 12 rit-āntarātmā niravagraha-pradhāna-śauryyō vidvatsu prathama-gaṇyah śrīmā(u) **Koṇḍugū-
mahādhirājah**
- 13 **Avinīta-nāmā** tat-putrō vijimbhamāṇa-śakti-trayah **Andariy-Ālatūr-Ppurujare-Polna-
gar-ādya-anēka-sa-**
- 14 mara-mukhe-makhe-huta-prahata-śūtra-purusha-paś-ūpahāra-vighasa-vihaṣṭikṛita-kṛtānt-Āgai-
mukhah **Kirā-**
- 15 tāṛjuniya-pośchadaśa-sargga-pīḥākārō **Durvvīnīta-nāmadhēyah** tat-putrah durddānta-vimar-
dda-vimṛidita-
- 16 viśvaṁbhar-ādhipa-manji-māḷā-makaranda-rajah-putūja-pūṇjarkṛi(ṣṛi)yamāṇa-charaṇa-yugaśa-
naḷinō **Mushkara-nā-**
- 17 madhēyah tasya putrah chaturddaśa-vidyāsthān-ādhipata-vimalamatir-vviśāhatō-navaśēsha-
- 18 aya nīti-sāstrasya vakti-prayōkti-kusāśō ripu-timira-nikara-mirākarap-ōdaya-bhākarah
- 19 **Śrīvīkrama-prathita-nāmadhēyah** tasya putrah anēka-samara-saṁpādita-vijimbhita-dvi-
- 20 rada-nakha-kujāś-ābhighāta-vraṇa-saṁrūḍha-bhāṣyaḍ-vijaya-lakṣaṇa-lakṣkṛita-viśāśa-
vakṣha-śhaḥah samadhiga-
- 21 ta-sakaśa-sāstr-ārttha [h*]² samārādhiṭa-trivarggō niravadya-charitah prati-dinam-
abhivarddha-māna-prabhāvō **Bhāvīkra-**
- 22 ma-nāmadhēyah apī cha [h*]³ Nānā-hēti-prahāra-pravighaṭita-bhaṭ-śraḥ-kavāt-ōttūt-āṣṇig-dhār-
āsvāda-pramatta-
- 23 dvipa-śatā-charaṇa-kebōda-sammardda-bhīmō | samgrāmō **Pallavēndraṁ** narapatim-ajayad-
yō **Vilind⁴-ābhīdhānō** rājā

¹ Read kṛitā.

² The word *saṁ* is found after this word in other records (cf. above, Vol. XXVII, p. 149, text line 22).

³ The double *daśa* marks here indicate the end of the section in prose.

⁴ In some records, this name is spelt as *Vijānda*; cf. above, Vol. XXVII, p. 150, text line 24, and the Kodakur plates, text line 29.



- 7 नृपो गूवाक¹सच्चंदनौ [1*] श्रीमहृष्यराजविंध्यनृपती श्रीसिंहराव्वि(ङ्गि)ग्रहौ ।²
 श्रीमहृष्यभगुंदाकपतिनृपाः श्रीवीर्यरामोऽनुजः ॥१३॥³ [चामुंड]ोऽवनिपे(पो)ऽति(थ)
 श्री⁴ राणकवरः श्रीसिंघटो दूसलस्तद्गताथ ततोपि वीसलनृपः श्रीराजदेवोप्रियः
 [1*] पृथ्वीराजनृपोथ तत्त⁵नुभू(भ)वो रासलदेवोविभुस्तत्पुत्रोजयदेव इत्यवनिपः
 सोमलदेवोपतिः ॥१४॥⁶ हत्वा⁶ चच्चिगसिंधलाभिधयसो(शो)राजादिवीरचयं ।⁷
- 8 चिप्रं क्रूरकृतांतवक्तकुहरे श्रीमार्गदुर्हा(र्हा)न्वितं(तम्) । श्रीमत्तो[ल्ल]णदंडनायकवरः
 संयामरंगांगणे जौर्वने(वन्ने)व नियंत्रितः करभक्ते येन ८ — — [लि]मात्
 ॥१५॥⁷ श्रीराजोस्य सुनुर्दृतहृदयहरिः सत्ववांशि(वाञ्छि)ष्टसोमो गांभीर्योदायव-
 (व)र्यः समभवद[चि]रालध्व(ल्लध्व)मध्यो न दीनः । तच्चित्रं जंन(यन्न) जाद्य(द्य)-
 स्थितिरद्वतमहापंकहेतुर्न मथा न श्रीमुक्तो न दोषाकररचितरतिर्न द्विजिह्वाधि-
 सेव्यः ॥१६॥⁸ यद्राज्यं
- 9 यद्राज्यं⁹ कुशवारणं प्रतिकृतं राजांकुशेन स्वयं¹⁰ येनात्रैव नु¹¹ चित्रमेतत्पुन¹²र्मन्या-
 महे तं प्रति । तच्चित्रं प्रतिभासते सुकृतिना निर्व्वाणनारायणन्यकाराचरणेन
 भंगकरणं श्रीदेवराजं प्रति¹³ ॥१७॥⁷ कुवलयविकासकर्ता विग्रहराजोजनि(नो)-
 [स्तु(ति)] नो चित्रं(त्रम्) । तत्तनयस्तच्चित्रं य[त्र] जडक्षौणसकलंकः ॥१८॥¹⁴
 भादानत्वं¹⁵ चक्रे भादानपतेः¹⁶ परस्य भादानः¹⁷ [1*] यस्य दधत्करबालः
 करालतां

¹ The syllable *ka*, having been first left by mistake, was later on engraved above the line.

² This *danda* is superfluous.

³ Metre : *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

⁴ This is a superfluous syllable.

⁵ There is a superfluous *virāma* stroke below *ta*.

⁶ Better read *Dattā* or *kshiptvā*.

⁷ Metre : *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.

⁸ Metre : *Sragdharā*.

⁹ These three syllables are repeated by mistake.

¹⁰ This *danda* is superfluous.

¹¹ The medial *u* sign here resembles the *virāma* stroke.

¹² Read *m=etad=apunar=*, taking *apunar* as meaning *na punar*.

¹³ This is one of the ambiguous verses in the record. It may be noted that what is mentioned in its first half as not appearing strange is to be construed both with the prince and with the ocean (*arṇorāja*); and what is mentioned in the second half, is to be taken as strange with reference to the ocean only. It would thus mean :— ' that the ocean whose director is the moon (*rāj-āmkusēna*), handed over (*pratikṛitam*) the mad elephant (*kuśa-vāraṇam*), i.e., Airāvata, to Indra (*Dēvarāja* of the second half); and that the prince who was a goad to kings (*rāj-āmkusēna*), revenged (*pratikṛitam*), the kingdom of Kuśa and Vāraṇa (*Kuśa-Vāraṇam*), is not to be wondered at. But that he (the prince), having insulted Nirvāṇa-Nārāyaṇa, brought about the ruin of *Dēvarāja* (meaning god of gods, i.e., the same Nirvāṇa-Nārāyaṇa, the Paramāra prince Naravarman), is really strange with reference to the ocean which neither insulted Nārāyaṇa (Vishṇu) nor ruined *Dēvarāja* (Indra).'

¹⁴ Metre : *Āryā*.

¹⁵ Means 'the act of absorbing lustre,' with reference to *parasya*.

¹⁶ This word is adjectival to *yasya* in the third quarter. It means 'of him who was *bhā-patiḥ* (the most illustrious) and *ādāna-patiḥ* (all acquiring).

¹⁷ Means 'emitting forth lustre'. It qualifies *karabālab*.

- 10 करतलाकालितः ॥१६॥¹ कृतांतपथसज्जीभूत्सज्जनोऽसज्जनो भुवः । वैकुंतं² कुंतपालो
गा[द्यत]ो वै कुंत[त]पालकः ॥२०॥³ जावालिपुरं ज्वाला[पु]रं कृता पालिकापि
पल्लोव । नद्व[ड]लतुर्यं रोषान्नदू[दू]लं येन सौ[शौ]र्येण ॥२१॥⁴ प्रतोल्यां
च वलभ्यां च येन विश्रामितं यशः । ढिल्लिकाग्रहणश्रान्तमाशिकानामलं-
भितं(तम्) ॥२२॥⁵ तज्येष्ठभ्रातृपुत्रोऽभुत्पृथ्वीराजः पृथूपमः । तस्मादज्जितहेमांगो
हेमपर्वतदानतः ॥२३॥⁶ अतिधर्मरतेना-
- 11 पि पार्श्वनाथस्वयंभुवे । दत्तं⁷ मोराज्ञरीग्रामं⁸ भुक्तिमुक्तिश्च⁹ हेतुना ॥२४॥¹⁰ स्वर्गादि-
दाननिवहैर्हृशभिर्महद्भिस्तोलानरैर्नगरदानचयैश्च विप्राः । येनाश्रिताश्चतुरभूपति-
वस्तपालमाक्रम्य चारुमनसिद्धिकरी गृहीतः ॥२५॥¹¹ सोमेश्वराल्लध्व(स्व)राज्यस्ततः
सोमेश्व(स्व)रो नृपः [।*] सोमेश्व(स्व)र¹²नतो यस्माज्जनः सोमेश्व(स्व)रो¹³भवत्
॥२६॥¹⁴ प्रतापलंकेस्व(स्व)र इत्यभिख्यां यः प्राप्तवान् प्रौढपृथुप्रतापः [।*]
यस्याभिमुख्ये वरवैरिमुख्याः केचिन्मृता¹⁵ केचिदभिद्रुताश्च । २७॥¹⁶ येन श्री-
- 12 पार्श्वनाथाय रेवातीरे स्वयंभुवे । सा(शा)सने¹⁷ रेवणाग्रामं¹⁸ दत्तं¹⁹ स्वर्गाय काञ्चया
॥२८॥²⁰ क्व ॥ अथ कारापक²¹वंशानुक्रमः ॥ तीर्थे श्रीनेमिनाथस्य राज्ये नारा-
यणस्य च । अंभोधिमथनाद्देव(व)लिभिर्व्व(र्व्व)²²लशालिभिः ॥२९॥²³ निर्गतः
प्रवरो वंशो ह्रिं(दे)ववंदैः समाश्रितः । श्रीमालपत्तने स्थाने स्थापितः शतम-
न्युना ॥३०॥²⁴ श्रीमालशैलप्रवरावचूलः प(पू)र्व्वोत्तरः सत्वगुरुः सुव्रत(त्त)ः ।
प्राग्वाटवंशोऽस्ति व(व)भूव तस्मिन्भुक्तोपमो वैश्रवणाभिधानः²⁵ ॥३१॥²⁶ तडागपत्तने
येन कारितं

¹ Metre : Āryā.

² Read *vaikuntam*, 'the state of lancelessness'. ³ Metre : *Anu-htubh*.

⁴ *Hēmānga* here means the mountain Sumēru. That he (the prince) gave in charity gold in heaps shows that he had earned the said golden mountain itself.

⁵ Read *dattō*.

⁶ Read *-muktyōś=cha*.

⁷ Read *-grāmō*.

⁸ Metre : *Anu-htubh*.

⁹ *Tōlānarair=*, i.e., 'in men's weight'. *Tōlē ā samantāt narā yēśhām, taih*. [Possibly the reading is *ś=*
tōlābharair= meaning *tulābhārair=*.—Ed.]

¹⁰ Metre : *Vasantatilakā*.

¹¹ *Umāyā sahitaḥ sō=maḥ, ēvambhūtō ya īśvaraḥ Śivah, tasmai nataḥ*.

¹² *Saḥ Um-ēśvaraḥ Umāyāḥ īśvaraḥ putiḥ arthāt Śivah abhavat*.

¹³ Read *=mrītāḥ*.

¹⁴ Metre : *U'pajāti*.

¹⁵ *Śāsana*, with reference to land-grants, means in local circles 'absolute charity.'

¹⁶ Read *dattaḥ*.

¹⁷ *Kārāpaka* does not seem to be the proper name of any Vaiśya family as some scholars have thought (C. V. Vaidya, *His. Med. Ind.*, Vol. III, p. 391). It is a wrong form from the root *kṛi* in a double causative sense which is found also in other inscriptions. It refers to him who caused the erection of the Pārśvanātha temple.

¹⁸ The word *Va(Ba)libhiḥ* conveys the idea of the whole demon class according to the maxim '*prādhānyēna vyapadēśā bhavanti*,' for, Bali was the chief of that class.

¹⁹ If we take *vai* as a particle of affirmation, the name of this person would be Śravaṇa.

²⁰ Metre : *Indravajrā*.

- 13 जिनमंदिरं(रम्) । [तीर्त्वा] भ्रात्वा यस(श)स्तत्त्वमेकत्र स्थिरतां गतां(तम्) ॥३२॥¹
 योऽचौकरचंद्रसु(शु)रि(चि)प्रभाणि व्याघ्ररकादौ जिनमंदिराणि । कीर्त्तिदुमारा-
 मसमृद्धिहेतोर्विभांति कंदा इव यान्यमंदाः² ॥३३॥³ कल्लोलमांसलितकीर्त्तिसुडा-
 (धा)समुद्रः ।⁴ सद्(हु)द्वि(वं)धुरवधूधु(ध)रणे ध[रौ(र)शः⁵ ।] [भू*][त]ी-
 पकारकरणप्रगुणांतरात्मा श्रीचञ्चुलस्वतनयः [८ ८ —]⁶ पदेऽभूत् ॥३४॥⁷
 शुभंकरस्तस्य सुतोवनिष्ट शिष्टैर्महिष्ठैः परिकीर्त्तयकोर्त्तिः ॥(१) श्रीजासदोस्त⁸
 तदंगजन्मा यदंगजन्मा खलु पुण्यरासि(शि)॥⁹ ॥३५॥¹⁰ मंदिरं वर्द्ध-
 14 मानस्य श्रीनाराणकसंस्थितं(तम्) । भाति यत्कारितं स्त्रीयपुण्यस्कंधमिवोज्ज्वलं-
 (लम्) ॥३६॥¹¹ चत्वारश्चतुराचाराः पुत्राः पात्रं शुभश्रियः । अमुथामुथधर्माणो
 र्व(ब)भूवुर्भार्ज(र्य)योर्हयोः ॥३७॥¹² एकस्यां हावजायेतां श्रीमदाम्बटपद्मटौ ।
 अपरस्यां [सु][तौ जातौ*] [श्रीमल्ल]छटदेसलौ ॥३८॥¹³ पाकाणां¹⁴ नरवरे¹⁵ वीर-
 वैश्वकारणपाटवं(वम्) । प्रकटितं¹⁶ स्त्रीयवित्तेन घा(धा)नु(तु)नेव महौतलं(लम्)
 ॥३९॥¹⁷ पुत्रौ पवित्रौ गुणरत्नपात्रौ विशुद्धगात्रौ समसी(शी)लसत्त्वौ(त्यो) [।*]
 व(व)भूवतुल्लेखकस्य जैत्रौ मुनीदुर्गमैर्द्विभौ(धौ) प्रस(श)स्तौ(स्तौ) ॥४०॥¹⁸
 15 ¹⁵ षट्पं(ट्खं)डागमबद्धसौहृदभराः¹⁶ षड्जीवरक्षेत्राः¹⁷ षट्मे(ड्मे)र्देन्द्रियवस्य(श्य)तापरिकराः¹⁸
 षड्धर्मक(क्ल)सादराः¹⁹ [।*] षट्पं(ट्खं)डावनिकीर्त्तिपालनपराः²⁰ ष(षा)ट्गु(ङ्गु)-

¹ Metre : Anushtubh.

² The simile here is rhetorically a bit faulty inasmuch as the subject of comparison is in the neuter gender, while the standard of comparison is in the masculine.

³ Metre : Upajāti.

⁴ This danda is superfluous.

⁵ Dhar-ēśah should be expounded as Dharaś=ch=āśau īśaś=cha meaning 'lord Viṣṇu in his Kūrma incarnation when he upheld the earth.'

⁶ Syllables within these brackets are wanting in the text. They have neither been engraved, nor due space has been left for them.

⁷ Metre : Vasantatilakā.

⁸ The transitive verb sū 'to beget or produce' is here used intransitively.

⁹ This mark of punctuation is unnecessary.

¹⁰ Metre : Upajāti.

¹¹ Metre : Anushtubh.

¹² Read Prakīrṇam as adverbial to the verb in the third quarter and also as predicate to the subject of the fourth quarter. [Reading of these three syllables is uncertain.—Ed.]

¹³ Better read Nṛivarē to suit the metre.

¹⁴ Better change this verb to prathitam for the sake of the metre.

¹⁵ The religious and the philosophical principles finding mention in this as well as in verse 48, decidedly belong to the Digambara Jaina school of thought.

¹⁶ षट्खंडागम appears to refer to the āgamas or religious literature pertaining to the six divisions of the cosmos, called dravyas which are जीव, धर्म, अधर्म, आकाश, काल and पुद्गल.

¹⁷ षड्जीव are पृथ्वी, अप्, तेजस्, वायु, वनस्पति and द्रव्य of which the former five are regarded as स्थावर being possessed of one इन्द्रिय only, while the last is the name given to जीव possessed of more than one इन्द्रिय.

¹⁸ There are only five इन्द्रिय, viz., 'स्वर्गनरसनप्राणवचुशीवाणि' (Umāsvāmī's Tattvārthasūtra, Ch. II, sū. 19); but मनस् which is regarded as an ईवदिन्द्रिय seems to have also been included here.

¹⁹ षट्कर्म of ६ आचक्र are enumerated in the following couplet of the Umāsvāmīśrāvākāchāra :—

देवपूजा गुरुपाणिः स्वाध्यायः संयमस्तपः ।

दानं चेति गृहस्थानां षट्कर्माणि दिने दिने ॥

²⁰ According to the Digambara Jaina doctrine, there are six खंडs of the earth of which one is the आर्यखंड between the Ganges and the Indus, and the rest are क्षेत्रखंडs outside this region.

स्थचिंताकराः¹ षट्(इष्ट)ष्ट्यं(वु)जभास्करा[ः*]² समभवः³ षट्दे(इदे)श्लस्यांगजाः
॥४१॥⁴ श्रेष्टी(ष्टी) दृक्कनाथकः प्रथमकः श्रीमोसलो वीगडिईवस्पर्श इतोपि
सीयकवरः श्रीराहको नामतः । एते तु क्रमतो जिनक्रमयुगांभोजैकभृंगोपमा
मान्या राजशतैर्वदान्यमतयोः⁵ राजन्ति जंवू(वृ)त्सवाः⁶ ॥४२॥⁷ हस्यं श्रीवर्हमान-
स्याजयमेरोर्विभूषणं(णम्) [1*] कारितं यैर्महाभागैर्वि-

16 मानमिव नाकिनां(नाम्) ॥४३॥⁸ तेषामंतः श्रियः पाचं [सीय]कः श्रेष्टि(ष्टि)भूषणं-
(णम्) । मंडलकरमहादुर्गं भूषयामास भूतिना⁹ ॥४४॥¹⁰ यो न्यायांकुरसेचनैक-
जलदः कीर्त्ति(र्त्ते)र्द्धिधानं परं ।¹⁰ सौजन्यांवु(वु)जिनोविकासनरवः पापाद्रि-
भेदे पविः [1*] कारुण्यामृतवारिधेर्विलसने राकाश[सं(शं)]को[प]मी नित्यं
साधुजनोपकारकरणव्यापारव(व)डादरः ॥४५॥¹¹ येनाकारि जितारिर्नमिभवन् देव-
द्विष्टगोदुरं चंचत्कांचनचारुदंडकलमश्रेणिप्रभास्वरं(रम्) । खेलत्खेचरसंदरोश्चमभरं
भंजङ्गुजोद्भोजनैर्वेत्तेष्टापदशैलमृ(मृ)गजिनमृत्प्रोद्दामसद्मश्रियं(यम्) ॥४६॥¹² श्रीसीयकस्य
भार्ये द्वे

17 सौ¹¹ नागश्रीमामटाभिधे(धे) । आद्यायास्तु स्व(च)यः पुत्रा द्वितीयायाः सुतद्वयं(यम्)
॥४७॥¹³ पंचाचारपरायणात्ममतयः¹² ।¹⁰ पंचांगमंचोज्ज्व(ज्ज्व)लाः¹³ ।¹⁰ पंचज्ञानविचारणा-
सुचतुराः¹⁴ ।¹⁰ पंचेन्द्रियार्थोज्जयाः¹⁵ । श्रीमत्पंचगुरुप्रणाममनसः¹⁶ पंचाणुशुद्धव्रताः¹⁷ पंचते

¹ I do not know the exact conception of षड्गुण्य. It is, perhaps identical with the sixfold political expedi-
ents, viz., संधि, वियह, यान, आसन, वैधीभाव and आश्रय.

² षड्दृष्टि here seems to have been used for षड्दर्शन, viz., लोकायतिक, सौगत, सांख्य, योग, प्राभाकर and जैमिनीय.

³ Read samabhavan.

⁴ Metre : Śārdūlavikrīḍita.

⁵ Krama here means 'foot'.

⁶ Read -matayō.

⁷ Meaning 'joy of Jambū(-dvīpa)'.

⁸ Metre : Anuṣṭubh.

⁹ The correct form of this word in the sense of 'splendour' should be bhūtyā.

¹⁰ This danda is superfluous.

¹¹ This syllable seems to be superfluous.

¹² The five आचार^s are दर्शनाचार, ज्ञानाचार, वीर्याचार, चारित्राचार and तपआचार as given in the following gāthā :—

दंसण्णपहाणे वीरियचारित्तवरतवायारे ।

अप्यं परं च जुंजइ सी चायिर्आ मुणी भंओ ॥

(Nēmichandra's *Dravya-saṅgraha*, ch. III. gā. 52).

¹³ पंचांगमंच appears to refer to *mantras* classified under five heads, viz., आह्वान, स्थापन, संनिधिकरण, पूजन and विसर्जन, for the worship of the god.

¹⁴ पंचज्ञान are embodied in the *sūtra* 'मतिश्रुतावधिमनःपर्ययकेवलानि ज्ञानम् ।' (Umāsvāmi's *Tattvārthasūtra*, ch. I, sū. 9).

¹⁵ The five इन्द्रियार्थ are embodied in the *sūtra* 'स्पर्शरसगंधवर्णशब्दास्तदर्थो ।' (Umāsvāmi's *Tattvārthasūtra*, ch. II, sū. 20).

¹⁶ The five गुरु are अहंत्, सिद्ध, आचार्य, उपाध्याय and सर्वसाधु as embodied in the well-known sacred Jaina *mantra*,

शमो अरहंतार्यं शमो सिद्धार्यं शमो आचार्यार्यं ।

शमो उपाध्यायार्यं शमो लोप सत्सङ्गार्यं ॥

¹⁷ These five व्रत are embodied in the following *sūtra* :—

'हिंसाऽनृतस्तेयान्नद्वपरिग्रहंभ्यो विरतिर्नतम् ।'

(Umāsvāmi's *Tattvārthasūtra*, ch. VII, sū. 1).

तनया गृह[तेवि]नयाः श्रीसीयकश्रेष्ठिनः ॥४८॥¹ आद्य[*] श्रीनागदेवोऽभूत्तो-
लाकश्रीज्व(ज्व)लस्तथा । महीधरो देवधरो दावेतावन्यमाहजौ ॥४९॥² उज्व-
(ज्व)लस्यांगजन्मानौ श्रीम[द्]र्जुनलक्ष्मणौ । अभूतां भुवनोद्भासयसो(शो)दुर्लभ-
लक्ष्मणौ ॥५०॥³ गांभोर्य जलधेः स्थिरत्वमचलात्तेज-

18 स्विता(ता) भास्वतः ।⁴ सौम्यं चंद्रमसः सु(शु)चित्वममरश्रो(स्रो)तस्विनीतः परं(रम्)
[।*] एकैकं परिगृह्य विस्व(स्व)विदि[तो] यो वेधसा सादरं मन्ये वी(वी)ज-
कृते कृतः⁵ सुकृतिना सः⁶ लोलकश्रेष्ठि(ष्ठि)नः ॥५१॥¹ अथागमन्मं[दिरम]ष
कौर्त्तः श्रीवि[ध्यव]र्त्ती धनधान्यव(व)र्त्ती(र्त्तीम्) । तत्रालु[लोचे ह्यभि*][तल्प-
सुप्तः] कंचिन्नरसं(शं) पुरतः स्थितं सः ॥५२॥⁶ उवाच कस्त्वं किमिहाभ्युपेतः
कुतः स तं प्राह फणीस्व(स्व)रोहं(हम्) । पातालमूलात्तव देशनाय [श्री*]-
पार्श्वनाथः स्वयमेष्टीह ॥५३॥⁶ प्रातस्तेन समुत्थाय न कं(किं)चन विवेचितं-
(तम्) । स्वप्नस्यांतर्म्नोभावा यतो वातादिदूषिताः ॥५४॥² लोला-

19 क[स्य] प्रियास्त्यो(स्रो) व(व)भूवुर्म्मनसः प्रियाः ॥५५॥ ललिता कमलश्रीश्च लक्ष्मी-
र्लक्ष्मीसनाभयः ॥५५॥² ततः स भक्तां ललितां व(व)भाषे गत्वा प्रियां तस्य
निर्दि(शि) प्रसुप्तां(साम्) [।*] शृणुष्व भद्रे धरणीहमेहि श्री[पार्श्वनाथ*] [खलु
दर्शयामि ॥५६॥⁶ तया स चोक्तो [म] उ — उ — — — — उ य-
[त्व(त्वं) व्र(न) हि] सत्यमेतत्⁸ । श्रीपार्श्वनाथस्य समुत्पत्तिं स प्रासादमर्च्चां
च करिष्यतीह ॥५७॥⁶ गत्वा पुनर्लोलिकमेवमूचे भो भक्तशक्तानुगतातिरक्त ।⁹
देवे धने धर्मविधौ जिनेष्टौ श्रीरवतीतीरमिहाप पार्श्वः ॥५८॥¹⁰ समुत्तरैर्न
कुर(रु) धर्मकार्यं त्वं कारय श्रीजिनचै-

20 त्यगेहं । येनास्मसि श्रीकुलकीर्त्तिपत्रपौचोरुसंतानसुखादिर्वाङ्मि(मि) ॥५९॥⁶ त[दे]-
[तङ्गी*]माख्यं व(व)नमिह निवासी जिनपतेस्त एते ग्रावाणाः(णः) शठकमठ¹¹मुक्ता
गगनतः । सधा(दा)रा[मः] [शश्वत्*]दुपचयतः कुंडसरित(तो)स्तदचैतत् स्थानं
उ — उ — [नि]गमं प्राप परमं(मम्) ॥६०॥¹² अत्रास्त्युत्तममुत्तमादि(द्रि)सिष(शिख)रं

¹ Metre : *Sārdūlavikīṭita*.

² Metre : *Anuṣṭubh*.

³ This *danda* is superfluous.

⁴ Something like *saṃgrahaḥ* has to be understood here as object to *kṛitāḥ*. [The correct reading is *Lōllakaḥ śrēṣṭhi(śhīhi)nah* in which case *Lōllakaḥ* is the object of *kṛitāḥ*.—Ed.]

⁵ *Visarga* is here ungrammatical. It seems to have been retained for the sake of the metre. Better read *sukṛitīn-āsau*.

⁶ Metre : *Upajāti*.

⁷ *Satyam* here seems to have been used in the sense of *uchitam*, 'right or proper'.

⁸ The *virāma* sign here resembles that of medial *ū*.

⁹ This mark of punctuation is joined to the top line of the previous syllable.

¹⁰ Metre : *Indravajrā*.

¹¹ *Kamatha*, also called *Kamatha-purusha*, is a mythological figure in Jain religion who had disturbed the penance of Pārśvanātha by hurling down blocks of stone from the sky.

¹² Metre : *Sikharinī*.

- 21 लेशः कर्करेशो यच्चास्ति कपिलेस्व(श्च)रः ॥६२॥³ महानालमहाका[लिभ]र्यस्व(श्च)रमं-
ज्जकाः । औचिपुष्करतां प्राप्ताः संति त्रिभुवनार्चिताः ॥६३॥³ क(को)र्त्तिना-
थं(थ)च(श्च) [कि][दारः*] मिस्वामिनः [।*] संगमीमः(मेशः)
पुटीस(श)श्च मुखेस्व(श्च)र[वटे]रू(श्च)राः ।[६४।*]³ नित्यप्रमोदितो देवो मिडे-
स्व(श्च)रगया⁴(ये)वु(श्च)राः [।*] गंगामेद[श्च*] सोमी(मेशः)⁵ गङ्गा(ङ्गा)नाथत्रि⁶पुरांतकाः
॥६४(६५)॥³ संस्त्रात्रो⁷ कोटिलिंगानां यच्चास्ति कुटिला नाना(न)दो । स्वर्गजा-
लेस्व(श्च)रो देवः समं कपिलधारयाः⁸ ॥६५(६६)॥³ नाल्पमृत्युर्न वा रोगा न
दु⁹र्भिक्षमवर्षणं(णम्) । यत्र देवप्रभावेन¹⁰ कलि-

- 22 पंकप्रधर्षणं(णम्) ॥६६(६७).³ षण्मासे जायते यत्र शिवलिंगं स्वयंभुवं(वम्) ।
तत्र कोटीस्त्र(श्च)रे तीर्थे का श्लाघा क्रियते मया ॥६७(६८)॥¹ इत्येवं ज
७ — ७ — ७ ७ ७ — — — ७ — — ७ —, — — — ७ ७ —
७ — ७ ७ ७ —: कृत्वावतारक्रियां(याम्) । कर्त्ता पार्श्वजिनेस्त्र(श्च)रोच
कृपया सोथाय्य वासः पतेः¹¹ शक्तेर्यै(र्व्वै)क्रियिक[:*] त्रियस्त्रिभुवनप्राणिप्रबोधं
प्रभुः ॥६८(६९).² इत्याकर्ण्य वचो विभाव्य मनसा तस्योरगस्त्रामिनः स प्रातः
प्रतिबु(बु)ध्य पार्श्व(श्च)मभितः क्षोणीं विदार्य क्षणात् । तावच्च विभं ददशे
सहसा निःप्राकृताकारिणं¹² कुंडाभ्यर्षत एव धाम दधतं स्वायंभुवं श्रीत्रि-
तं(तम्) ॥६९(७०).²

¹² Read *nishprākṛit-ākariṣam*.

- 29 [ह]तौयायां तिथौ वारे गुरु(रौ) स्ता(ता)रे च हस्तके । धृतिनामनि योगे च करणे तैतिले तथा ॥८[२](८३)॥¹ [सं]वत् १२२६ फाल्गुन वदि ३ [१*] कांवारिवणाग्रामयोरंतराले गुहिलपुं(पु)चरा०²दाधरमहं³वणसी(सिं)हाभ्यां दत्त(त्ता) चैत्रडोहली १ [१*] खदुंगग्रामवास्तव्यगौडसोनिगवासुदेवाभ्यां दत्त(त्ता) डोहलिका १ [१*] आंतरीप्रतिगणके रायताग्रामौयमहं(ह)तमलीवडिपोपलिभ्यां दत्त(त्ता) चैत्र-डोहलिका १ [१*] वडौवाग्रामवास्तव्यपारिग्रही⁵ आल्हणेन दत्त(त्ता) चैत्रडोहलिका १ [१*] लघुवीभोलीग्रामसं⁶गुहिलपुचरा०⁷व्याहरमहं(ह)तममाहवा-
- 30 [भ्यां द]त्त(त्ता) चैत्रडोहलिका १ [१*] व(ब)हुभिर्वसुद्धा(धा) भुक्ता राजभिर्भरताद-य(दिभिः) । यस्य यस्य [य]दा भूमी तस्य तस्य तदा फलं(लम्) ॥⁷ ॥८॥

No. 10.—A NOTE ON THE BATTLE OF VALLALA : A.D. 911-2.

BY THE LATE MR. A. S. RAMANATHA AYYAR, B.A., MADRAS.⁸

A record⁹ dated in the 6th year of a Chōla king Parakēsarivarman at Pullamaṅgai in the Tanjore District reads as follows :—

Svasti Śrī [१*] Kō-pParakēsariparma[r*]kku yāṇḍu āṛavadu Kiḷār-kūṛrattu brahmadēyam Pullamaṅgalattu Tiruvālandurai-Mahādēva[r*]kku Śembiyaṇ-Mahābali-Vāṇarāyar śiṛukālai-sandikku iru-nāḷi ariśiyālum arai-ppiḍi neyy-amirdālum niśadamum tiruvamidu śēvadaṛku vilaikku viṛṇu-kkuḍutta nilam.....

and it registers a gift of land by Śembiyaṇ-Mahābali-Vāṇarāya to the temple of Tiruvālandurai-Mahādēva at Pullamaṅgalam, a *brahmadēya* in Kiḷār-kūṛram, in the 6th year of king Parakēsarivarman. The record can palæographically be attributed to the 10th century A. D., and it must therefore belong either to Parāntaka I (A. D. 907-53) or to Uttama-Chōla (A. D. 970-986), the only two Parakēsarins who ruled for at least 6 years in this period.

Now from the Sholinghur record¹⁰ dated in the 9th year of the Chōla king, specified only by the title of Parakēsarivarman and identified with Parāntaka I, it is learnt that the Gaṅga chieftain Prithivīpati II was given the title of 'Bāṇādhiraṇja', while the Udayēndiram Plates¹¹ of the 15th year of Madiraikoṇḍa Parakēsarivarman (Parāntaka I) state that this chieftain was

¹ Metre: *Anuṣṭubh*.

² *Rā*⁰ probably stands for Rāuta or Rāval.

³ *Maham* stands for महत्तम, modern Mēhtā.

⁴ The letter *kehē* is misshaped.

⁵ *Pārigrahī* seems to be an official title of a revenue collector.

⁶ *Sam* probably stands for *saṅgata* or *sambaddha* 'associated or connected with'.

⁷ There are three indistinct signs after this pair of *daṇḍas*.

⁸ [I have to record here with deep regret that Mr. A. S. Ramanatha Ayyar breathed his last without seeing this article finally printed. By his death we have lost a sound scholar of South-Indian History.—Ed.]

⁹ No. 559 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection for 1921.

¹⁰ *Ante*, Vol. IV, pp. 221-25. It may be noted that the king in this record is also specified by the title of Kō-pParakēsarivarman only, without the epithet of 'Madiraikoṇḍa'.

¹¹ *South Indian Inscriptions*, Vol. II, No. 76.

called 'Śembiyaṇ-Mahābali-Vāṇarāya'. As the latter title occurs also in this record of the 6th year of a Parakēsarivarman, it is reasonable to assume that this king is identical with Parāntaka I¹, though the title of 'Madiraikoṇḍa' which he had assumed from the 3rd year onwards is lacking.² The record cannot be attributed to the other Parakēsarīn, Uttama-Chōla, for the reason that Piritipatiyār (Prithivīpati II), son of Māṇamaraiyar (Māṇasimha), who figures in an epigraph of the 24th year of Rājakēsarivarman (Āditya I), corresponding to A. D. 895, cannot possibly have been living so late as the 6th year of Uttama Chōla, corresponding to A. D. 975. It may therefore be inferred that the title of 'Śembiyaṇ-Mahābali-Vāṇarāya' together with the chiefship over the Bāṇa territory, had been conferred on Prithivīpati II, before the 6th year of the Chōla king Parāntaka I, corresponding to A. D. 912-13.

Parāntaka I had assumed the title of 'Madiraikoṇḍa', i.e., 'he who took Madura' from the 3rd year⁴ of his reign, and so his first southern expedition against the Pāṇḍya king of Madura must have taken place in about A. D. 909-10.⁵ As Prithivīpati had been granted the title of 'Bāṇādhirāja' before A. D. 912-13, as noted above, the northern campaign in which this Gaṅga feudatory had helped his suzerain against a Bāṇa chieftain, success in which had evidently earned for him both the Bāṇa title and the Bāṇa territory, must have occurred between A. D. 910 and 912-13, i.e., in about A. D. 911-12. As the Sholinghur record particularly mentions that Prithivīpati had won distinction in a battle called Vallāla and thus vindicated 'his fitness for the possession of a particle of the sun'⁶, presumably his position as a feudatory of the Chōla king of the Solar race, it is possible that this battle was fought in this Bāṇa campaign only, in about A. D. 911-12.

The Udayēndiram Plates state that before his 15th year Parāntaka had defeated two Bāṇa chieftains and a Vaidumba chief⁷. It is not definitely stated who they were, and whether the two Bāṇas had been worsted in a single campaign or in two separate engagements. Three inscriptions of Māvali Bāṇarāja which are attributable to Vijayāditya-Prabhūmēru are dated in Śaka 820, 827 and 832 (A. D. 898 to 910), without mentioning the names of any overlords⁸. It is evident from this that the Bāṇa chiefs who had been feudatories of the Pallava rulers of Kāñchī had declared their semi-independence, after the extinction of that dynasty by the Chōla king Āditya I⁹. In the absence of other similarly dated records of Bāṇa chiefs soon after A. D. 909-10, in this region, it may be inferred that they had met with reverses at the hands of the Chōla conqueror Parāntaka, who allying himself with the Gaṅga chieftain Prithivīpati II on his north-western frontier had probably defeated them in the battle of Vallāla in A. D. 911-12.

¹ It may be noticed that a record of Parāntaka, 11th year, engraved in the same temple (No. 558 of 1921) closely resembles the present inscription in point of paleography.

² Several inscriptions attributable to Parāntaka I simply call him a Parakēsarivarman without the distinguishing titles—e.g., No. 376 of 1917, 443 of 1907, etc. So the absence of the title is no bar against the identification of the Parakēsarivarman of No. 559 of 1921 above with Parāntaka I.

³ *Ante*, Vol. XIX, p. 88.

⁴ No. 157 of the Madras Epigraphical Collection for 1923, etc.

⁵ The date of accession of Parāntaka I fell between January and July, A. D. 907.

⁶ *Ante*, Vol. IV, p. 224, V-8. The Chōlas belonged to the solar race, and as Prithivīpati also assumed the title of Vira-Chōla, the poet seems to suggest that he 'acquired a spark of the Sun' (*ibid.*, p. 225, f. n. 5).

⁷ *S. I. I.*, Vol. II, No. 76.

⁸ *Ante*, Vol. XI, pp. 229-240 and No. 163 of 1921.

⁹ There is a record of a Bāṇarāja dated in Śaka 810, which may belong to Vijayāditya or his father Vikramāditya Bāṇavidyādhara (*S. I. I.*, Vol. III, No. 44). This date which is equivalent to A. D. 888 gives an indication as to when the Pallava power was destroyed and Āditya I overran Tondai-maṇḍalam.

The two Bāṇa opponents may have been Vijayāditya-Prabhumēru, whose dated records come up to A. D. 909-10 and who probably lost his life in this battle, and his son Vikramāditya who figures as the heir-apparent in the Guḍimallam Plates¹.

One other point of historical interest may be considered in this connection. The Kanyākumari inscription² of the 7th year of the Chōḷa king Virarājēndradēva (A. D. 1069) states that Parāntaka had earned the title of 'Vira-Chōḷa' by his victory over the unconquered Kṛishṇarāja and narrates this event after his conquest of Madura. In verse 9 of the Sholinghur record³ noted above, which contains the *captatio benevolentiae*, Parāntaka is mentioned with this title of 'Vira-Chōḷa' and from the Tamiḷ verse at the end of that inscription it is evident that his Gaṅga feudatory Prithivīpati had also assumed the same title of his overlord. So if the Kanyākumari record's statement can be relied on, Parāntaka who had assumed the title of 'Vira-Chōḷa' before A. D. 916, must also have defeated a Kṛishṇarāja before that date.

Who was the powerful Kṛishṇarāja who lived in this period? The only king whom Parāntaka could have met in battle on his north-western frontier at this time was the Rāshtrakūṭa Kṛishṇa II who reigned from about A. D. 879 to 912; and the political situation in this period was such as to render plausible the Chōḷa and the Rāshtrakūṭa kings ranging themselves on opposite sides⁴. We may therefore have to suppose that Kṛishṇa II⁵ had come to the help of the Bāṇas, as against the Chōḷa Parāntaka I and the Gaṅga Prithivīpati II, and had probably suffered defeat in the battle of Vallāḷa noted above. If specific references to this event are absent in records of Kṛishṇa II, it is only to be expected; for the king would not have mentioned his own reverses in his inscriptions, and further A. D. 912 fell almost in the end of his reign. It is, however, inexplicable why the other Chōḷa documents, such as the Anbil, Leiden and Tiruvāḷangāḍu copper-plate records are silent in regard to this achievement of Parāntaka I, while it is only the later Kanyākumari inscription that has made particular mention of it. This point has to be elucidated only by future discoveries.

Vallāḷa, the scene of the fight, may perhaps be identified with Tiruvallam in the Gudiyāttam taluk of the North Arcot District, which was an important place in the old Bāṇa territory, and which an invading army was likely to attack first. It was called Tikkāli-Vallam in the early times, and it is possible that the name of 'Valla' was transformed into 'Vallāḷa' by the encomiast of the Sholinghur record, to suit the metrical exigencies of the Sanskrit verse in which he has introduced this village-name.

¹ Ante, Vol. XVII, p. 3.

² Travancore Archaeological Series, Vol. III, p. 143, v. 58.

³ Ante, Vol. IV, p. 224. The same verse occurs also in the Udayēndiram Plates (*S. I. I.*, Vol. II, p. 385) with the word *Ēkarīraḥ* substituted for *Vira-Chōḷaḥ*. Dr. Hultzsch has wrongly identified the Vira-Chōḷa of this verse with Prithivīpati, whereas it refers to the Chōḷa king Parāntaka only.

⁴ In this connection, the possibility of attributing a few records from the Punganur taluk of the Chittoor District to Kṛishṇa II, requires further investigation. (*Epig. Rept.* for 1933-34, Part II, para. 8.) The *Uttara-purāṇa*'s reference to Kṛishṇa's elephants having gone as far as Kumari may, however, be only conventional praise. (Altekar, *Rāshtrakūṭas and their Times*, p. 97, f. n. 27.)

⁵ It is possible that Āditya I had married the daughter of the Rāshtrakūṭa Kṛishṇa II and had a son called Kannaradēva by her; and when Parāntaka succeeded to the Chōḷa throne, Kṛishṇa II may have felt some grudge against the Chōḷa king, resulting in his own joining the Bāṇa side.

No. 11.—TUMAIN INSCRIPTION OF KUMARAGUPTA AND GHATOTKACHAGUPTA;
G. E. 116.

By M. B. GARDE, B.A., DIRECTOR OF ARCHEOLOGY, GWALIOR STATE.

This inscription was discovered by me in February 1919, in the course of an exploration tour, at **Tumain**, a large village in the Guna District of Gwalior State. It was mentioned in my *Annual Administration Report* for Vikrama Samvat 1975 (A. D. 1918-19) and a short note was published in the *Indian Antiquary* Vol. XLIX (1920), pp. 114-15. It is now edited with full text, translation and facsimile.

The stone on which it is inscribed was found stuck up in a wall of a small dilapidated mosque at Tumain. It is now preserved in the Archaeological Museum at Gwalior. Unfortunately the left (proper right) part (probably more than one half) of the stone is broken off and missing, and consequently the first half of all the lines, lost. The inscribed surface of the stone measures about 24" broad by 7" high. The surviving part of the inscription contains only six lines of writing, but the missing part had a portion of one more line. The epigraph is written in Gupta characters of the Southern variety, the average size of letters being 3'. The recovered portion of the record is well preserved and the text can be read with certainty with the exception of a few letters. The language is Sanskrit, which is generally correct. It is noteworthy that the present tense is used in the sense of the historic past in two places: *vandyatē* and *jayati* in line 1. There are a few mistakes of copying or engraving, e.g., *kamalam* *mattyaṃ* for *kamalam*=*achchham*, *vandyētē* for *vandyatē*, and *saṅghaiḥ* for *saṅghaiḥ* in line 1, *prithivyām* for *prithivyām* and *virājāmānē* for *virājāmānē* in line 4, *Saṅghadēva* for *Saṅghadēva* in line 5, and *śringa* for *śringa* in line 6.

The sign of punctuation at the end of the quarters and halves of verses, or at the end of complete verses, is expressed either by a single horizontal stroke as in lines 1 and 4, or by two upright strokes as in lines 3, 4 and 6. But where the verses or their halves end in a final *m* or in a *visarga*, the sign of punctuation is not expressed at all. The final *m* at the end of verses, their halves or quarters is never combined with the following consonant but is expressed, as is usual at this period, by reducing the size of the letter and placing a horizontal stroke over it (e.g. lines 1, 2 and 4).

As regards orthography, it is enough to note that a consonant is often doubled after *r*, e.g. *kīrttir*=*bhuj-ārjjitām* in line 3; *t* is doubled before *r* in *lōka-ttray-āntē* in line 1; the sign of *jihvāmūliya* occurs in *tataḥ*=*kanīyān* in line 5.

As remarked above, this is a fragmentary inscription, having lost the first part of each line. The recovered text is wholly in verse. Line 1 gives us a portion of a verse in *Mūlinī* metre and the first line of the following verse, a *Sragdharā*. Line 2 contains a complete *Upajūti*. Line 3 consists of the latter half of a *Vasantatilakā* followed by the first half of an *Upēndravajrā*. Line 4 has preserved an almost complete verse and the first quarter of another, both in *Upajūti* metre. In line 5 we have the last quarter of an *Indravajrā* or perhaps *Upajūti* verse followed by a complete *Upēndravajrā*. Parts of two verses in *Upēndravajrā* metre have survived in line 6. The existing portion of the epigraph thus comprises 11 verses, 3 of which have been completely recovered while 8, partially. From the calculation of the missing letters of the verses, and of the average space covered by each letter it would appear that the whole composition consisted of nearly sixteen verses.

The object of the inscription is to record the construction of a temple of a god (whose name is lost) by five brothers residing at **Tumbavana**. The names of the brothers in the order of seniority were Haridēva, Śridēva, Dhanyadēva, Bhadrādēva and Saṅghadēva. The date is

recorded in words as **one hundred and sixteenth year** of the kings (of the Gupta dynasty), which is equivalent to A.D. 435. No season, month or day is specified. In the genealogical portion, the first existing verse seems to allude to Samudragupta. The next verse eulogises his (son and) successor **Chandragupta** as one who conquered the earth extending as far as the oceans. In line 2 **Kumāragupta** is described as Chandragupta's son, who protected the whole earth as his lawful wife. Line 3 follows with the name of **Ghaṭōtkachagupta** who is compared to the moon and is praised as having attained the fame of his ancestors.

The inscription refers itself to the reign of **Kumāragupta** who is described as shining (*i.e.* ruling) over the earth as the sun in winter, in the year 116 of the (Gupta) kings. Thus Chandragupta and Kumāragupta of our inscription are the same as Chandragupta II and his son Kumāragupta I of the Imperial Gupta dynasty.

The main **historical importance** of the inscription lies in the information it contains about **Ghaṭōtkachagupta**. That he was a member of the Imperial Gupta family is shown by the manner in which he is referred to in this inscription.¹ His mention immediately after Kumāragupta who was occupying the imperial throne at the time of the inscription is perhaps to be explained by the hypothesis that Ghaṭōtkachagupta was then holding the office of the governor of the province of Airikiṇa (Eran) which included Tumbavana (Tumain), the provenance of the inscription. Unfortunately the word expressing the exact relationship between Kumāragupta (the ruling Emperor) and Ghaṭōtkachagupta (the provincial governor) is lost in the missing portion of the inscription. Ghaṭōtkachagupta was probably a son or possibly a younger brother of Kumāragupta I.

So far, the name of Ghaṭōtkachagupta was known from two documents: (1) a clay seal² found at Basāṛh bearing the inscription *Śrī Ghaṭōtkachaguptasya*, and (2) a coin³ in the St. Petersburg collection which according to Mr. Allan bears on the obverse traces of a marginal legend ending in *Guptaḥ* and beneath the king's arm *Ghaṭō* with a crescent above, and on the reverse a legend which seems to read *Kramādityaḥ*.

The late Dr. Bloch⁴ was inclined to identify Ghaṭōtkachagupta of the Basāṛh seal with *Mahārāja* Ghaṭōtkacha, the father and predecessor of Chandragupta I and this view was accepted by the late Dr. V. A. Smith.⁵ But Mr. Allan⁶ pointed out the difficulties in the way of this identification and surmised that Ghaṭōtkachagupta was probably a member of the Imperial Gupta family, who held some office at the court of the *Yuvarāja* at Vaiśālī (Basāṛh) during the reign of Chandragupta II. The Ghaṭō[tkachagupta] of the coin in the St. Petersburg collection is believed by Mr. Allan to be still another Ghaṭōtkachagupta on the ground that the style and weight of the coin place it about the end of the 5th century, and he says that it therefore cannot be referred either to Ghaṭōtkacha, the father of Chandragupta I, or to Ghaṭōtkachagupta of the Basāṛh⁶ seal. Mr. Allan's view is corroborated by our inscription. There is little doubt that the Ghaṭōtkachagupta of our inscription who, in G. E. 116, was probably the governor of Airikiṇa, during the reign of Kumāragupta I, is identical with the Ghaṭōtkachagupta of the Basāṛh seal.

Two **place names** occur in this inscription. These are **Vaṭōdaka** in line 4 and **Tumbavana** in line 6. Tumbavana which is mentioned in six of the votive inscriptions⁷ on

¹ See line 3 of the text.

² *A.R., A.S.I.*, for 1903-04, pp. 102 and 107.

³ Allan's *Catalogue of the coins of the Gupta dynasties, etc.*, Introduction, p. liv, p. 149 and plate XXIV. 3.

⁴ *J. R. A. S.* for 1905, p. 153 and *Early History of India* (1914 ed., p. 280, Note 1).

⁵ Allan's *Catalogue*, Introduction, pp. xvi-xvii and liv.

⁶ Allan's *Catalogue*, Introduction, p. liv.

⁷ Nos. 16, 17a, 18, 20, 21, and 346 in *Monuments of Sāncī*, Vol. I, pp. 301, 302, and 335. Also above, Vol. X, Appendix, Lüders' *List*, Nos. 450, 201, 202, 449, and 530.

TUMAIN INSCRIPTION OF KUMARAGUPTA AND GHATOTKACHAGUPTA; G. E. 116.

2
 4
 6

2
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 6

SURVED OF INDIA, CALCUTTA.

SCALE · ONE-THIRD

the balustrade of the great *Stūpa* at Sānchī and also in *Bṛhatsaṃhitā* (XIV, 15) of Varāhamihira, is no doubt to be identified with Tumain where our inscription was discovered. Tumain is an ancient site and some of its monumental and sculptural antiquities go back to the period to which our inscription belongs. It is six miles to the south of Tukneri Station on the Bina-Kotah branch line of the G. I. P. Railway, and about fifty miles to the north-west of Eran (ancient Airikīṇa).

Vaṭōdaka¹ is very probably modern Badoh which is a small village in the Bilisa District of Gwalior State, about 10 miles to the south of Eran, and which is an old place having in its neighbourhood monumental relics of the late Gupta and a small rock inscription² of the early Gupta period.

TEXT.

- 1 [रि]र्यस्य लोकक्षयान्ते । चरणकमलं(ल)मर्त्यं(च्छं) वन्द्ये(न्य)ते सिद्धसङ्घैः(ङ्घैः) [॥*]
राजा श्रीचन्द्रगुप्तस्तदनुजयति यो मेदिनीं सागरान्ताम्
- 2 -- श्रीचन्द्रगुप्तस्य महेन्द्रकल्पः कुमारगुप्तस्तनयस्स[मग्राम्] [॥*] ररक्ष साध्वीमिव
धर्मपत्नीम् वीर्याग्रहस्तरुपगुह्य भूमिम् [॥*]
- 3 [—] गौरः क्षित्यम्बरे गुणसमूहमयूखजालो नान्मोदितस्स तु घटोत्कचगुप्तचन्द्रः
[॥*] स पूर्वजानां स्थिरसत्त्वकीर्त्तिर्भुजार्जितां कीर्त्तिमभिप्रपद्य ॥(१)
- 4 [गुप्तान्वया*³]नां वसुधेश्वराणां[म्] समाश्रिते षोडशवर्षयुक्ते । कुमारगुप्ते नृपतौ प्रि(ष्ट)-
थिव्याम् विराजा(ज)माने शरदौव सूर्ये ॥ वटोदके साधुजनाधिवासे
- 5 तश्चैव इत्युज्जितनामधेयः [॥*] तदग्रजोभूद्भरिदेवमञ्जस्ततोनुजो यस्तु स धन्य-
देवः [॥*] ततोवरो यश्च स भद्रदेवस्तुतः(कनीयानपि सङ्घ(ङ्घ)देवः[॥*])
- 6 — नसक्तचित्ताः समान[व]त्ताकृति[भावधीराः कृता]लया[स्तु]स्ववने ब[भू]वुः ॥ अका-
रयंस्ते गिरिश्चतुङ्गं शशि[प्रभं] देवनि[केतनं³—]

TRANSLATION.

L. 1. Whose lotus-like beautiful foot was adored by multitudes of Siddhas (sages) throughout the three worlds. After him king *Śrī Chandragupta* conquered the earth as far as the oceans.

L. 2. *Śrī Chandragupta's* son *Kumārāgupta* who resembled the great Indra, embraced and protected the whole earth like a virtuous wife, with his mighty hands.

L. 3. The moon bearing the name *Ghaṭōtkachagupta*, fair and having a network of rays (*in the form*) of a multitude of virtues rose in the sky (*in the form*) of the earth. He whose goodness and fame were steady, having attained the glory won by his ancestors with (*the prowess of their own*) arms.

L. 4. In the year one hundred and sixteen of the lords of the earth (*in the Gupta dynasty*) when king *Kumārāgupta* was shining (*i.e. ruling*) over the earth like the sun in the winter. At *Vaṭōdaka* which was the abode of good people,

¹ Compare Agodaka (Agrōdaka) on coins=Agroha; Prithūdaka=Paoha.

² This inscription is engraved on a tablet near a panel of sculptures representing the *Sapta Mātrikās*, both carved in rock on a hill. It was dated but the portion giving the year and month, has peeled off, leaving behind only *śukla-divasē trayōdaśyām*. It mentions *Vishayēśvara Mahārāja Javatsēna*. The record is badly damaged and is unpublished so far.

³ The portion within square brackets is conjecturally restored.

L. 5. (*there lived a person*) who bore the distinguished appellation Śrīdēva.¹ His elder brother was Haridēva by name. The brother born after him was Dhanyadēva. His younger brother was Bhadrādēva and next (younger) to him was Saṅghadēva.

L. 6. Of minds attached to,.....of similar manners, of noble appearance and disposition, (*they had*) their home at **Tumbavana** (*where*) they built a (*temple*) of god (.....), shining like the moon and lofty like a mountain peak.

No. 12.—TWO YUPA INSCRIPTIONS FROM BARNALA : KRITA YEARS 284 AND 335.

BY DR. A. S. ALTEKAR, BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY.

The two *yūpa* inscriptions, that are being published here for the first time, were discovered by the late Rai Bahadur Daya Ram Sahni at **Barnāla** in the Jaipur State with the assistance of Thakur Sheonath Singhji of Kānota. Barnāla is a small village, belonging to the Thakur Sahib of Barnāla, about eight miles from the Lalsote-Gangapur fair-weather road. The two stone *yūpas* or sacrificial pillars, on which these inscriptions have been inscribed, were discovered in a large tank, close to the village. Each of the *yūpas* had been broken into two pieces at a height of about 6 and 6½ feet respectively from the bottom. The Government Epigraphist for India kindly sent to me ink-impressions of these records with a request to edit them for the *Epigraphia Indica*; I am doing so accordingly.

The late Rai Bahadur Sahni has noticed these inscriptions in his report on *Archæological Remains and Excavations at Sambhar* during Samvat years 1993 and 1994 (1936-37 and 1937-38 A. D.), pp. 3 ff. Therein he gives the following description of the *yūpas*: "The girdle or *pāśa* which is well executed round the two pillars at Mathura is absent in the Barnāla pillars as well as in those from Badvā. The projecting *chashāla* is square in one of the Barnāla *yūpas* and octagonal in the other. Like the Mathura pillars those under notice are square at the base but only up to a height of 3' 6" and 4' 5" respectively. The wreath is not represented. *Yūpa* No. 1 at Barnāla (Pl. XVII, a), which is 21' 2½" in height including the lower square portion is, as far as I am aware, the highest *yūpa* so far known to us." As to their present whereabouts, he says: "Both these *yūpa* pillars have been removed from Barnāla to the Hawa Mahal in the city of Jaipur, where portable antiquities unearthed during the excavations of last three seasons have been displayed for the benefit of the public."

In my paper on 'Three Maukhari Inscriptions on Yūpas, Kṛita Year 295', I have discussed in detail the general problems connected with the nature and significance of the *yūpas* or sacrificial pillars. I would refer the reader to that paper² for information on this point.

As on the *yūpas* at Badvā and Bijaygaḍh, the inscriptions on both these *yūpas* have been engraved in long vertical lines to be read from top to bottom. The engraver has not followed the more convenient method of inscribing the record in short horizontal lines engraved one below the other, which is followed on the *yūpa* in the Allahabad Municipal Museum.³ The inscription on the pillar A is of one line only, while that on the pillar B is in two lines, inscribed on two adjacent facets of the octagonal shaft. The first line is 8' 5" and the second 9' long⁴. Both the inscriptions have been sadly mutilated; it is an irony of fate that the

¹ Śrīdēva seems to have been the most important or influential among the brothers, as his name is given precedence over that of his elder brother.

² *Ante*, Vol. XXIII, pp. 42 ff.

³ *Ibid*, Vol. XXIV, pp. 245 ff.

⁴ In the Report, above referred to, it has been stated that the first line is 9' and the second 8' 5". A glance at the plate will show that the first line is shorter than the second and not *vice versa*.

mutations should have led to the disappearance of only the names of the sacrificers, who had taken so much trouble to enlighten the posterity about the sacrifices which they had performed.

As will be presently shown, the inscriptions belong to the 3rd century A. D. and their **characters** bear a general resemblance to those of other contemporary records from northern India, especially with those on the *yūpas* of Baḍvā and the Allahabad Municipal Museum. The characters on the *yūpa* A have been very neatly and carefully engraved, but those on the *yūpa* B have been inscribed in such a slipshod and careless manner that the task of deciphering them becomes very difficult. Subscripts of conjuncts and medial vowel signs are very often omitted or very badly executed; and in some cases it would appear that words have been wrongly spelt. We shall have to speak more about this point, when we discuss this inscription.

The **language** of the inscription A may be described as Sanskrit, with occasional influence of Prakrit, as when *sa-gōtasya*¹ and *puṇṇa*² have been written for *sa-gōtrasya* and *puṇya* respectively. The inscription B may be described as being written in incorrect Prakrit, with occasional mixture of Sanskrit expressions like *śuddhasya* in 1.1 and *dharmō cardhha[tām]* in 1.2.

The **orthography** of the records calls for no particular remarks.

Symbols for **numerals** for 200, 80 and 4 appear in the inscription A and for the numerals 300, 90, 30, and 5 appear in the inscription B. They are similar to those found in contemporary records in northern and western India. In the record B, the two small strokes that were necessary to be attached to the symbol for 100 in order to convert it into 300 have been joined together so as to form an angle with each other; usually the additional strokes are written horizontally one below the other.

INSCRIPTION ON THE YŪPA A.

The inscription opens with the auspicious word *siddham* and then proceeds to state its time. **Its date is the 15th day of the bright half of the month of Chaitra of the Kṛita year 284.** As is well known, the Kṛita era³ is the same as the Vikrama era, and so the date of the record would be 228 A. D. The earliest inscription in the Vikrama era so far discovered is that on the Nāndsā *yūpa*, which is dated in the Kṛita year 282. Our inscription would then be the second earliest record of this era. It is 11 years earlier than the Baḍvā *yūpa* records, which are dated in the Kṛita year 295.

After stating its precise date, the record proceeds to inform us that on the date mentioned, seven *yūpas* were erected by a person whose *gōtra* was Sōhartṛi and whose name ended in **-varddhana**. The *gōtra* is spelt as Sōhartta, but it is obviously the same as Sōhartṛi, which occurs among the *gōtras* of the *Bhāradvāja-kāṇḍa*, having the option of three or five *pravaras*.⁴ It is very sad that the mutilation of the record should have occurred just on that part where the name and the parentage of the sacrificer were mentioned. His name ended in *varddhana*, as observed already. The two letters immediately preceding *varddhana* cannot be made out; but the two next preceding letters appear to have been *rājñō*, to judge from the traces they have left behind. It would therefore appear that **the sacrificer was a king bearing a name of five letters, the last three of which were varddhana**. We can also see the

¹ [See below p. 120, n. 8.—Ed.]

² [See below p. 120, n. 11.—Ed.]

³ See ante Vol. XXIII, pp. 48-52 for a discussion on the Kṛita era.

⁴ वेङ्कटानिः सीङ्गतां कारी . . . इत्येते गणांसेषां पञ्चावर्षेयस्यावर्षेयी वा प्रवरी भवति । *Gōtrapravaranibandhakudamba* (Second edition), p. 56. [See below p. 120, n. 8.—Ed.]

traces of the letters *rājñō* after the word *sa-gōttasya*. Then follows space for two, or possibly three letters, which is now practically blank; but thereafter we can discern faint traces of the letters *pa* and *ta*. It would therefore appear that after giving the *gōtra* of the sacrificing king, the record had proceeded to give his parentage. His father was also a king and had a name of two or three letters. The restoration here suggested leaves no space for the letter *syā* coming after *putra*; probably that letter had been dropped. It is also possible that it may have been destroyed when the pillar was broken into two.

The concluding portion of the record reads, *yūpa-sattakō(am) punṇava*¹. I do not know the extent of the damage to the *yūpa* subsequent to this portion; it however appears very probable that the record ended with the words *punṇava[rđha:kō(am) bhavatu]*, expressing the hope that the sacrificial performance may increase the merit of the performer. The reference to the group of seven *yūpas* may show that the king had performed seven sacrifices; they were very probably the seven *Sōma* sacrifices, technically known as *Sapta-Sōma-saṁsthā*. The sacrifices included in this group were *Agnishōma*, *Atyagnishōma*, *Ukthya*, *Shōḍaśin*, *Vājapēya*, *Atirātra* and *Āptōryāma*.² The Allahabad Municipal Museum *yūpa* commemorates the performance of these very sacrifices.

The inscription clearly refers to a group of seven *yūpas*. The *yūpa* of the record B does not belong to this group, as it commemorates a sacrifice performed 51 years later. It is therefore not unlikely that a diligent search in the locality may lead to the discovery of more sacrificial pillars.³

TEXT.⁴

Siddham⁵ |⁶ Kṛitēhi 200 80 4 Chaitra-śukla-pakshasya paṁ(ñ)chadaśi [*] Sōhartta⁷-sagōttasya⁸ [rājñō⁹]...p[u]tt[rā⁹]syā [rājñō⁹]..varddhanasya yūpa-sattakō¹⁰ punṇa¹¹-va[rđha-kam bhavatu *]

TRANSLATION.

Be it auspicious! The full-moon day of (*the month of*) Chaitra of the year 284 by the Kṛita (*reckoning*). May this group of seven sacrificial pillars of king ...varddhana, son of king..., of Sōhartṛi *gōtra*, [increase] the merit (*of the sacrificer*)!

¹ [See below n. 10.—Ed.]

² *Kātyāyana-Śrauta-Sūtra*, X, 9, 27. ³ [But see below n. 10.—Ed.]

⁴ Edited from an ink-impression.

⁵ The stop *m* is indicated by a small letter *ma* written below the line.

⁶ The full-stop is indicated by the rather unusual device of two dots, written like a *visarga*.

⁷ Read *Sōhartṛi*. The medial *mītrā* for *ō* looks to some extent like the medial *ī mātrā*; but since the *Gōtrapravarānibandhakadamba* gives Sōhartṛi as the name of the *gōtra*, we must read the first letter as a rather irregular *ō*.

⁸ [The reading appears to be correctly *Sōhartṛi-sagōttasya*. The curl representing the medial *ṛi* in the syllable *rttri* is partly discernible, and so is also the sign for the subscript *r* in the letter *ttra*. Besides, otherwise the lengthening of the right-hand stroke of the second *t* in the syllables concerned is unaccountable.—B. C. C.]

⁹ There are faint traces of these letters.

¹⁰ Read *saptakam*. [The reading appears to be *yūpō sa[ttra]kō*, the sign of the medial *ō* in *pō* resembling that in *ō* of *Sōhartṛi*. The wrong *visarga sandhi* betrays the Prakrit influence. The reading of the second syllable is doubtful, inasmuch as it cannot be ascertained whether it is *ttra* or correctly *ttri* though it seems to be the former. In any case, the subscript *r* is pretty clear. We may correct the reading as *yūpaḥ sattrikah*, meaning 'the pillar connected with a sacrifice'. The particular sacrifice is, however, not specified. According to this reading, thus, there is no mention of seven *yūpas*.—B. C. C.]

¹¹ Read *punya*. [I see traces of a subscript *ya* below the second *n*; thus the reading is *punnya*, and according to my interpretation, we may restore this portion as *punnyaṁ varddhatām* or *punnyaṁ varddhatu* as is commonly found in similar inscriptions.—B. C. C.]

A



Left Half



Right Half

B



Left Half



Right Half

Inscription on the Yūpa B.

This inscription does not begin with the auspicious word *siddham*, as does the inscription on the *yūpa* A ; it straightway proceeds to give its date according to the Kṛita, i. e., Vikrama era. Its date is the fifteenth day, i. e., the full-moon day of the bright half of the month of Jyēshṭha of the Kṛita year 335. The name of the month is spelt as *Jasha* ; there can be, however, no doubt that the word is intended to stand for Jyēshṭha. *Jasha* for *Jyēshṭha* is but the first example of the carelessness of the engraver of this record. The date of the record is therefore 279 A. D.

It would be convenient to discuss the decipherment of the remaining portion of the record from its end ; I therefore proceed to do so. The last four letters of the second line are very clear ; they read *dharmṃ varddhā*. It is clear that the last word is intended to be *varddhātām* ; the record ends with the hope that religion may prosper. The word preceding *dharmṃ* is clearly *prīyatām* ; the subscript *r* of *prī* is faintly visible and its medial *ī* *mātrā* is slightly damaged. The next preceding word clearly reads *Vashṭa* and there is a dot after the last letter, which is clearly a remnant of a *visarga*. I think we have to correct this word into *Vishṇuḥ*. The subscript *ṭa* can also be taken as an ill-executed *ṇa* ; the medial *ī* *mātrā* was left out in the word *Jyēshṭha* in l. 1, and a similar mistake seems to have been repeated here. The concluding expression *Vishṇuḥ prīyatām dharmṃ varddhātām* would remind us of the expressions *Prīyant- [ā]m=Agnayah* and *punah punah prītim=iyān=Mahēśvara iti*, which occur at the end of the inscriptions on the Isāpur and Allahabad Municipal Museum *yūpas* respectively. The royal sacrificer of the Allahabad Museum *yūpa* was a Śaiva advocate of the Vedic sacrificial religion ; in the present case the sacrificer was a Vaishṇava champion of the Vedic rites.

Immediately preceding the emended word *Vishṇu* there is a triangular symbol, which is almost identical with the symbol occurring at the end of the inscription on the *yūpa* of Balavaradhana, found at Baḍvā¹. This form is therefore not a letter but a mere symbol, marking the end of the main announcement of the record.

Immediately before this concluding symbol, there is another, which clearly stands for 90. Out of the five letters preceding 90, the first is clearly *da*, the second looks like a damaged *kshi*, the third is a *ṇ* with a subscript, the fourth is a *da* or *dā* and the fifth is a *ta*. When we recollect how the Baḍvā *yūpa* inscriptions end with the expression *Trirātra-sammitasya dakshinyam(ṇā) gavām sahasram*, it will be at once clear that these five letters are intended to stand for *dakshinyam(ṇā) dāta(dattā)*. The reading of the third letter only is rather doubtful here ; the subscript looks like that of a *r* ; but the main letter is a *ṇ* or *n*, and so the context as well as the use in the Baḍvā records would show that it was intended to be *ṇya* for an original *ṇā*.

These five letters therefore refer to the *dakshinā* given to the priests on the occasion of the sacrifice and the symbol for 90 describes its amount. What then were the ninety objects that were given at the end of the sacrifice ?

The name and the description of the 90 things donated to the Brāhmaṇas is given in the preceding seven letters ; for the four letters preceding this group of seven clearly read *yajña ishṭa* to be corrected into *yajñā ishṭāḥ*. The first of these seven letters is a *sā* or *sa* ; the second one is *vva* or *vri* ; the third is a conjunct of which the second letter is *ta* and the first very probably *s* ; the fourth is clearly an initial *i* ; the fifth is certainly a *va* ; the sixth is a *vā* ; and the seventh a *ga*. But *savvasta iva vāgā* as the description of the ninety articles given in *dakshinā* gives no

¹ See ante, Vol. XXIII, Plate facing p. 52.

meaning whatsoever. We shall have to emend the text rather drastically, remembering all the while that the engraver was a person who was capable of writing *Jasha* for *Jyēshtha* and *Vashṭu* for *Vishṇu*.

I would suggest, not without very great diffidence, that *sarvasta iva vāgā* should be emended into *savatsā iva gāvō*. The *dakṣhiṇā* given at the sacrifices commemorated on the Baḍvā *yāpas* consisted of kine. The same was probably the case here. *Vāgā* should therefore be changed into *gāvō*; an engraver who writes *Vashṭu* for *Vishṇu* is certainly capable of writing *vāgā* for *gāvō*. *Sarvasta* does not give any sense, and since it is an adjective of *gāvō*, it is but reasonable to emend it into *savatsā*. The context now shows that *iva* should be changed into *ēva*. The record therefore states that a *dakṣhiṇā* of 90 cows, not alone but each accompanied with its calf, was given on the occasion.

And what was the occasion? It is mentioned in the opening portion of the second line. Here again the first two letters have been peeled off. The third letter had a subscript *r*, the fourth is *ra* and the fifth *tra*; then comes the numeral 5, which is followed by the words *yajña ishṭa*, as observed already. It is very clear that the 3rd, 4th and 5th letters were intended to be *trirātra*; this part of the record then states that five *Trirātra* sacrifices were performed when the honorarium of 90 cows along with their calves was given.

As in the case of the inscription on the *yūpa* A, the name of the sacrificer must have followed immediately after the word *pañchadaśi* in the 1st line. The two letters after this word read *bhrīṭṭa*, which have obviously to be corrected into *bhaṭṭa*. After this a considerable portion of the inscription has been peeled off and about six or seven letters have been obliterated completely. They contained the name of the sacrificer. His title *bhaṭṭa* would suggest that he was a *Brāhmaṇa* and not a king or a general.

The last five letters of the first line are very clear; they are to be read as *tri ta va ṇa śu*. *Tritavaṇaśu* however gives no sense. With great hesitation I would emend this word into *Tritavanēshu*; the five *Trirātra* sacrifices seem to have been performed by the *Brāhmaṇa* sacrificer not in a village or in a town but in a holy forest known as *Trita* forest.

One more lacunæ, that of the two letters at the beginning of the second line, remains to be considered. The following word here is *trirātra*, and the obliterated word was probably an adjective of that sacrifice. The full and real name of the *Trirātra* sacrifice, which was an amalgam of *Agnishṭōma*, *Ukthya* and *Atirātra*, was *Garga-trirātra*¹; it is possible that the two obliterated letters were *gargga* and what remain of them gives some support to this conjecture.

Our record therefore commemorates the performance of five *Trirātra* or perhaps *Garga-trirātra* sacrifices by a *Brāhmaṇa* sacrificer on the full moon day of *Jyēshtha* of the *Kṛita* year 335, corresponding to 279 A. D. The *dakṣhiṇā* prescribed for a *Trirātra* sacrifice was one thousand cows. But our sacrificer was probably not rich enough to give it, and so he contented himself by giving only eighteen cows per sacrifice, but each accompanied by a calf. He was a *Vaiṣṇava* also, so he ends the inscription with the hope that *Vishṇu* would be pleased and religion promoted by his action.

I now give below the reading of the record along with the suggested emendations.

TEXT.¹

1 Kṛitēhi 300 30 5 Jasha²(Jyēshṭha)śuddhasya³ paṁ(ñ)chadaśi[|*] Bhṛiṭṭa(Bhatta).....
Tritavaṇaśu(Tritavanēshu ?)

2 [Garga ?][t]r[ī]ra(rā)tra 5 yajña(jñā) iṣṭa(ṣṭā)⁴ savasta(savatsā) i(ā)va vīgā(gāvō)
dakṣiṇya⁵(ṇā) dātā(dattā) 90.⁶ Vashṭaḥ(Vishṇuḥ) priyatām dharmmō vardhdha[tām⁷].

TRANSLATION.

The 15th day of the bright fortnight of (*the month*) of Jyēshṭha of the year 335 by the Kṛita (*reckoning*). Five (*Garga*) Trirātra sacrifices were performed by Bhaṭṭa.....in Trita forests (?). 90 cows, which were accompanied by (*their*) calves, were given as *dakṣiṇā*.

May (*god*) Vishṇu be pleased ! May Dharma increase !

No. 13.—GURZALA BRAHMI INSCRIPTION.

By PROF. K. A. NILAKANTA SASTRI, UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

The inscription edited below is found engraved on a grey marble slab set up behind the Travellers' Bungalow,⁷ about two furlongs to the north of it, at *Gurzāla* in the Palnāḍ taluk of the Guṇṭūr District. There are on the spot several similar slabs which are uninscribed and which must be the relics of some ancient structure that has now disappeared. An impression of the inscription was placed in my hands some time ago by Dr. M. Rama Rao, but I found subsequently from Rao Bahadur C. R. Krishnamacharlu, Superintendent for Epigraphy, that he had secured a much better impression of the record, and it is from this impression which he has kindly placed at my disposal that I edit the record which is listed as No. 335 of the Epigraphical Collection of Madras in the *An. Rep. on S. I. Epi.* for the year 1936-37, and discussed in paragraph 10 of Part II.

The slab containing the inscription measures 5' × 19" ;⁸ in its centre is carved a pillar with apparently a bulbous base and a double bulbous capital ; the shaft of the pillar shows a slight tapering, being 3" wide at the bottom, and less than 2½" at the top, its height being about 2'. The capital comprises two oviform members, each 3" high, the upper one being broader (5½") than the lower (4½") at its horizontal axis. This capital is surmounted by an abacus 3" high above which stand three cones alongside of one another, looking like the battlement of a fortress. Our inscription comprises three lines, two incised to the proper right, and the third to the left of the carved pillar, all lines running from the capital of the pillar to its base.

¹ Edited from an ink-impression.

² Both below *ja* and *sha*, there appear to be some depressions, which appear like traces of subscript letters. now peeled off. They may however be also due to the stone not being well dressed.

³ Faint traces of the subscript *ya* can be traced in the impression.

⁴ The subscript *ta* is partly broken.

⁵ The letter looks like *tri*, but it is read as *nya* on the analogy of the Baḍvā records. See introduction.

⁶ After the numeral 90, there is a symbol here, similar to that occurring on the Baḍvā *yūpa* inscription A.

⁷ It is understood that the slab has since been removed to the Taluk office compound, *Gurzāla*.

⁸ This measurement is furnished by Dr. Rama Rao.

The **script** of the inscription is Brāhmī very similar to that of the well-known inscriptions from Nāgārjunikoṇḍa edited in *Epigraphia Indica* some years ago by Dr. J. Ph. Vogel, and may be taken to belong to the third century A. D. The average height of the letters, if we neglect the flourishes, is about one inch. The fourth letter in l. 3 which I read as *lu* may be compared with the same letter in a somewhat later Western Chālukya inscription, viz., the Bādāmi stone inscription of Maṅgalīśa.¹

The three vertical strokes at the end of the last line seem to be an ornamental stop as in G-3 (above, Vol. XXI, plate opp. p. 62) and not a symbol for three which usually comprises similar horizontal strokes. The **language** of the record is Prākṛit. The object of the inscription is to record the gift of a field by a certain **Noduka-siri** to the **Bhagavān, the Lord of Halampūra**, for securing longevity for the donor. The date of the record is given as the tenth day of the 8th fortnight of summer in the fourth regnal year of *Mahārāja Siri-Ruḷupurisa-dāta*, whose name shows that he is a hitherto unknown king of the **Ikshvāku** line, members of which have left many inscriptions in the neighbourhood from which our record comes. The method of dating adopted is common in Ikshvāku records.² The location of **Halampūra** where the temple of the Bhagavān was located is somewhat difficult to determine. In the *Annual Report on South Indian Epigraphy, Madras*, for 1936-37, it is suggested that Halampūra 'may be identified preferably with Allūru in the Nandigama taluk of the Kistna district which is not far removed from Gurzāla, though there are two villages of the name Alampuram, one in the Nizam's Dominions and the other in the Tanuku taluk of the West Godavari district'. Ālampūr in the Nizam's Dominions seems best to satisfy the requirements of the case by its name and the known antiquity of its monuments. It is situated at the apex of the Raichur Doab on the western bank of the Tuṅgabhadrā, a little distance before its junction with the Kṛishnā. In spite of its distance from the Palnād region, this place must have been easily accessible by river, and it teems with antiquities, temples and other structures, some account of which will be found at pages 7-13 of the *Annual Report of the Archaeological Department of H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions* for 1926-27.

Another place much nearer Gurzāla and about 20 miles east of it, though not so rich in antiquarian remains, that comes in for consideration here, is Nāgulavaram in the Palnād taluk itself. The name has the same meaning as Halampūra (plough-city), and Sewell noted an old Viṣṇu temple and another temple of Śiva in the place and an illegible inscription in the latter. The place has yielded two inscriptions listed in the Madras Collection. It is possible that the Halampūra-sāmin of our inscription is identical with the deity in one of these shrines.³

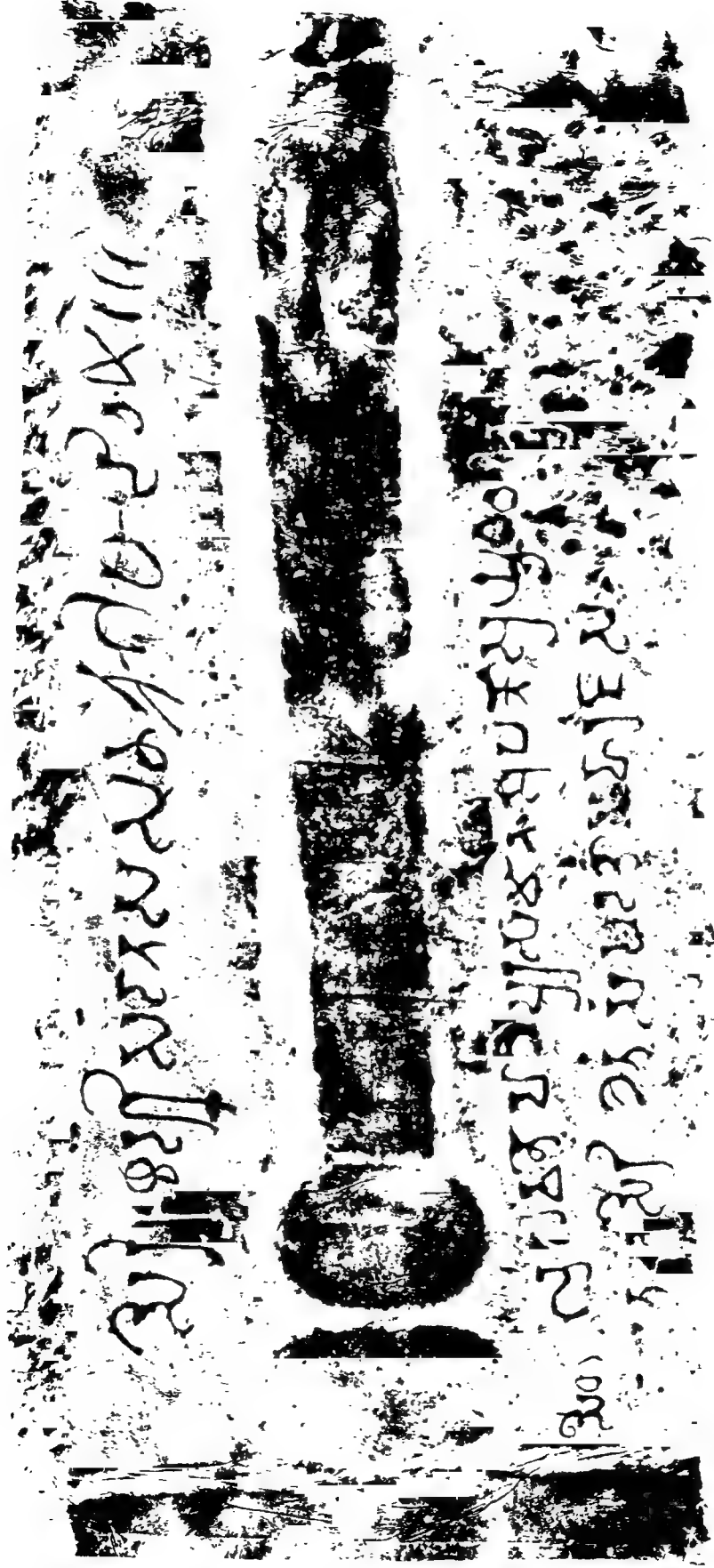
There is nothing in our inscription to indicate that the Bhagavān Halampūra-sāmin to whom the field was given was the Lord Buddha; and it must be noted that our record differs in some respects from the generality of Nāgārjunikoṇḍa inscriptions in that it does not begin with the usual *Siddham namo Bhagavato* but simply *sidham*, and in that the purpose of the gift precedes the name of the donor. It seems possible that the endowment was not that of a Buddhist. But seeing that some at least of the temples of Ālampūr show traces of having originally been Buddhist structures, perhaps converted later into Hindu temples, the other possibility cannot also altogether be ruled out at present, that is, if the identification of Halampūra with Ālampūr is accepted.

¹ *Ind. Ant.* Vol. X, pl. opposite p. 59, l. 4.

² See also *ibid.*, Vol. VII, p. 37.

³ Sewell, *Lists of the Antiquarian Remains in the Presidency of Madras*, Vol. I, p. 61; Nos. 216 of 1927 and 306 of 1931 of the Madras Epigraphical collection; Survey map 56P/NW. (1"=2 miles).

GURZALA BRAHMI INSCRIPTION.



TEXT.

- 1 Sidham | Bhagavate Halāmpūra-sāmine apaṇo ayuvadhnikam¹
 2 Noduka-siri khetam saṃpada[ttām]² Mahārajasa
 3 Siri-Ruḷupurisadātasa sa ta 4 gi 8 diva 10 |||

TRANSLATION.

Success ! To the Bhagavān, Lord of Halāmpūra, a field was given (*by*) Noduka-siri for the increase of his own life on the tenth day in the eighth fortnight of summer in the fourth (*regnal*) year of *Mahārāja* Siri-Ruḷupurisadāta.

No. 14.—DATE OF ASHRAFPUR PLATE.

By D. C. GANGULY, M.A., PH. D. (LONDON).

A copper-plate inscription was discovered in 1884-1885 at the village Ashrafpur, in the Narayanganj Sub-Division, Dacca District, Bengal. Mr. Ganga Mohan Laskar published this inscription with a facsimile in the Memoirs of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. I, No. VI.

The inscription is dated *Samvat* ३ *Pausha* di ६ ५ :|| Mr. Laskar reads the date as

Samvat 10 3 (=13) *Pausha* 20 5 (=25). Dr. R. C. Majumdar³ agrees with Mr. Laskar in thinking that there are two symbols expressing the year-number, and two symbols expressing the day of the month. But according to him the first symbol of the year-number is 7, and the second one represents 3 or 9. He thus reads the year-number as 73 or 79, which he refers to the Harsha Era. The day of the month according to him is 20 8 (=28). If Dr. Majumdar's reading is accepted it will follow that in the same inscription both the figure-numerals and letter-numerals have been used side by side. Dr. Basak⁴ states that "the first symbol in the reading of the year-number is really a puzzling one".

Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar⁵ discusses this inscription under No. 1394 in his *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*. He accepts with a query mark Dr. Majumdar's reading of the year-number as 73, and refers it to the Harsha Era.⁶ In the foot-note he, however, remarks that "it has

¹ [Reading seems to be *ayuvadhnikae*. — N. L. R.]

² Cancel the length of the final vowel and read : *saṃpadattam*.

³ *J. P. A. S. B.*, Vol. XIX, pp. 375 ff.

⁴ *History of North-Eastern India*, p. 203.

⁵ Above, Vol. XX, Appendix, pp. 190-191.

⁶ Dr. Bhandarkar does not correctly represent Dr. Majumdar's view when he says that Dr. Majumdar reads the year-number of the inscription as 70 3 or 70 9. It has already been pointed out that Dr. Majumdar takes the first symbol as 7, and the second one as 3 or 9, which according to him makes 73 or 79.

perhaps to be read as 60 3". According to him the day of the month is to be read as 20 5. and not as 20 8, as has been suggested by Dr. Majumdar.

On close examination I find that the year-number is expressed by only one symbol in the inscription. This is clearly a symbol for 7.

A comparison of this symbol with the symbol for 7, mentioned in the Damodarpur copper-plate No. 1,¹ and in the Mallasārul copper-plate² of Gōpachandra, will convince one of the correctness of my reading.

Thus the date of the Ashrafpur copper-plate should be read neither as 73 nor as 63 but as 7, which is obviously the regnal year of the king Dēvakhaḍga, during whose reign the inscription was issued.

No. 15.—PARASURAMESVARA TEMPLE INSCRIPTIONS.

By A. GHOSH, M. A., PATNA.

Of the five inscriptions edited here, the principal one is found on the top of the southern doorway of the *maṇḍapa* attached to the Paraśurāmēśvara temple at Bhuvaneswar, District Puri. It has been noticed in some official publications,³ but so far as I am aware, the text has never been published before.

The inscription occupies an area of 22"×6" and runs to three lines. The letters are rather carelessly engraved, many of them being ill-formed; their size ranges from 1¼" to ¾". The language is Sanskrit, but there are some grammatical mistakes; thus, in the first sentence the nominative has been given a passive form, while the verb is in the active voice. Some grammatical error also makes the last three letters of the second line unintelligible. Rules of *sandhi* have not been observed in *naivedya-ādhakam* in line 2. A serious orthographical mistake occurs at the beginning of the third line, where *apy=ādhika* appears as *apyi=ādhika*. In the same line *kaśchin=na* is spelt as *kaśchim na*.

The script belongs to about the first half of the ninth century A. D., being somewhat later than the local inscriptions of the Bhaumas⁴; note particularly the somewhat archaic form of the palatal sibilant in the latter set. The temple of Paraśurāmēśvara has, on architectural and other considerations, been regarded as one of the earliest, if not the earliest, of the temples of Bhuvaneswar.⁵ The present inscription, along with those noticed below, sets the lower limit of the date of the construction of the temple.

The object of the inscription is to record some daily offering in favour of Pārāsēśvara-bhaṭṭaka, by which word is probably meant the god installed in the temple, as well as of those

¹ Above, Vol. XV, p. 130.

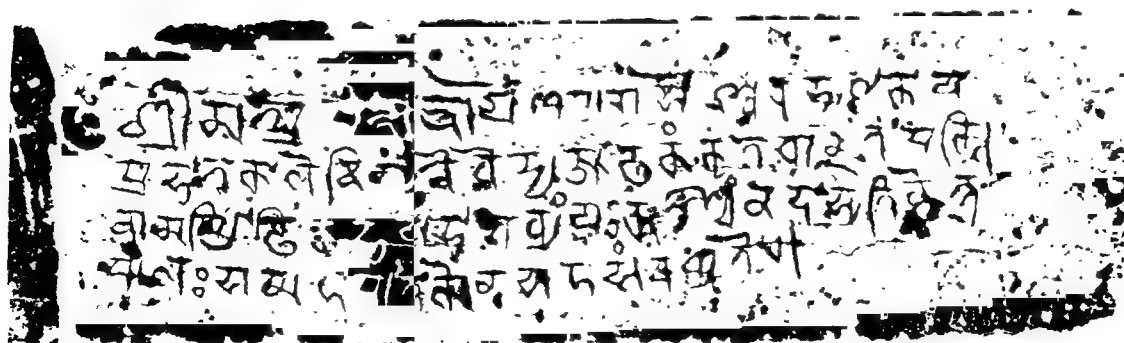
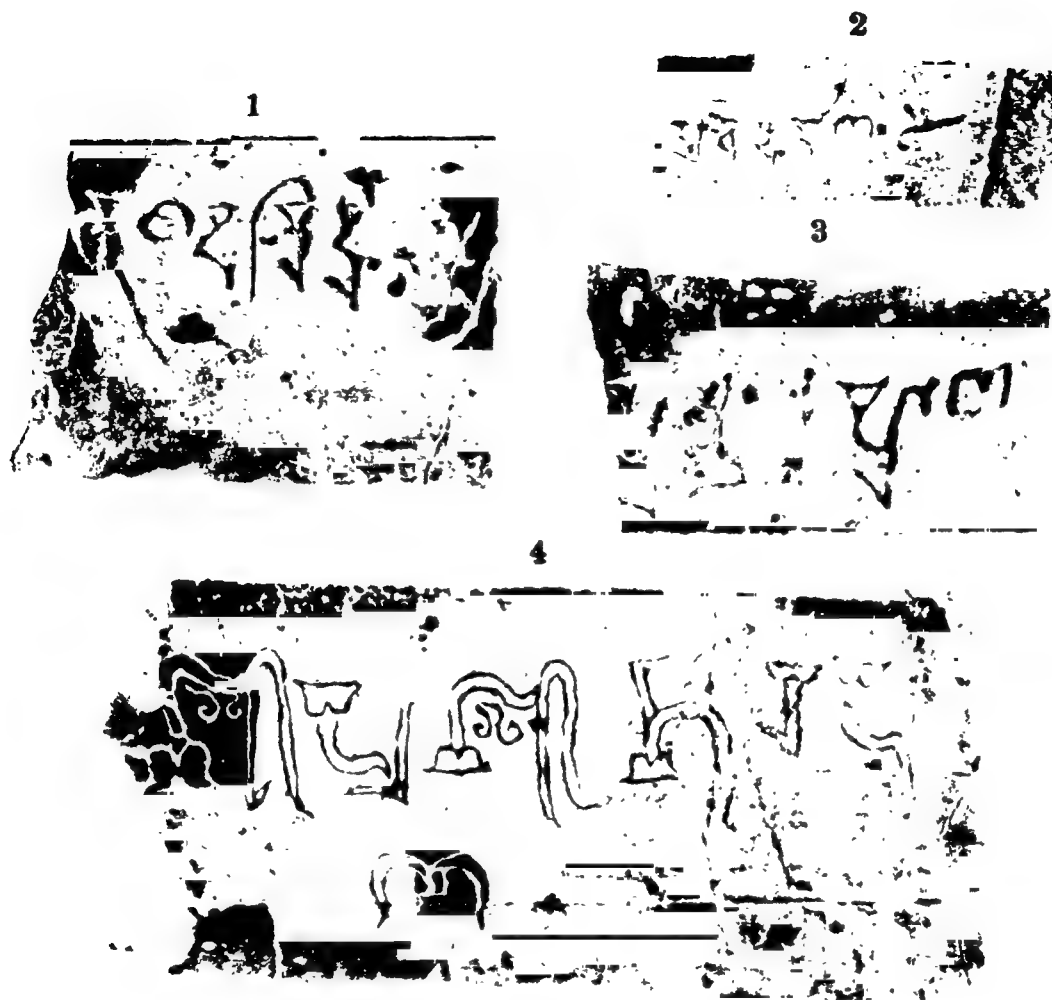
² *Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 155.

³ *List of Ancient Monuments in the Orissa Division*, Government of Bengal, 1896, p. 64; *Puri District Gazetteer*, p. 242, where its contents have been wrongly noticed.

⁴ Compare, for example, the Dhauli cave inscription of Śāntikara, above, Vol. XIX, p. 263.

⁵ The date of its construction ranges, according to different scholars, from the fifth or sixth century to the eighth century (M. M. Ganguly, *Orissa and Her Remains*, p. 273; *Puri District Gazetteer*, p. 241).

PARASURAMESVARA TEMPLE INSCRIPTIONS.



who were to cook (?) the offering to the god. It should be noted in this connexion that the name of the god (and consequently of the temple) is given here as *Pārāsēśvara*; if we are justified in amending the word, we may regard *Parēśēśvara* or perhaps *Parāśarēśvara* as the old name of the temple; surely the correction to *Paraśurāmēśvara*, its present name, would be too daring.

On the eastern wall of the temple there are a few more short inscriptions in nail-headed characters of about the eighth century A. D. Four of them, reproduced here, read: (1) *Kāṭhadaridrasya*¹ (Sanskrit *Kāṭhadaridrasya* ?) : (2) *Pravṛṇakūṇa*, followed by a symbol, probably a punctuation mark; (3)—*prūṇa*; and (4) *śrī-Prasūturapr[ā]ṇa*.²

TEXT.

- 1 Ōm śrīmat-Prapittrāchāryēṇa³ Pārāsēśvara-bhaṭṭakāya
- 2 prabhāta-kālē nityam naivēdya-ādḥakam kṛitavān [*] tam pakvi-⁴
- 3 nām=apyi(py)=ādḥika-dvayaṁ dātavyam [!"] yaḥ [ka"]ch[i]m(n=) na dāsyati kshē(?)ttra-
- 4 pālaḥ sa mahā-pātakēna saha saṁvadhyaṭē cha⁵

TRANSLATION.

Ōm. (Arrangement) has been done by the illustrious **Prapittrāchārya** for the offering of an *ādḥaka*⁶ (of grain) for the Lord **Pārāsēśvara** every morning. Also to the cooks (?) of that (grain) two *ādḥikas* are to be given. The keeper of the field (?) who will not give (them) (will be invested) with great sin and will be bound (or killed).⁷

No. 16.—AN INSCRIPTION OF JAITUGI, SAKA 1188.

By H. D. SANKALIA, M.A., LL. B., PH. D. (LOND.), POONA, AND
S. C. UPADHYAYA, M. A., LL. B., BOMBAY.

This inscription, which is preserved in the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, is now published with the courtesy of (now) the ex-Curator, Mr. G. V. Acharya, and the Trustees. It is not known whence it came, but, as will be shown below, it must be from the vicinity of Bombay.

The record is inscribed on a rectangular stone, 3'5" × 1'1½". The inscribed portion, which contains 20 lines, covers a space of 1'8½" × 1'1". It is not in a good state of preservation. Several letters are broken and the last five lines cannot be completely deciphered. The average size of letters is ⅜". Below the inscribed portion is cut out a rectangle, 11" × 10", which contains an ass-sculpture, usual in inscriptions of this period from Kōṇkan.⁷ Right on the top, the stone is deeply cut into a rectangle, 6" × 13½" × 1½", which contains a representation of the Sun on the right and the Moon on the left and a double *Kalāśa* in between.

¹ Nos. (3) and (4) are probably identical. The letters of the last one are ornamentally treated.

² The correction to *Pavittrāchārya* or *Pramittrāchārya* may be suggested.

³ I am not sure of the correct reading of this ill-formed letter and conjecturally read it as *kvi*, regarding the word *pakvin* to be an incorrect derivative of the root *pac*. *Tam* probably stands for *tat*. [The intended reading may be *tapasvinām*.—Ed.]

⁴ [What has been read as *cha* appears to me to be only a part of the mark of punctuation.—B. C. C.]

⁵ *Adhaka* is a measure of grain; the word *adhika* occurring in the next line is obviously a smaller measure.

⁶ [The word *saṁvadhyaṭē* is evidently meant for *saṁbadhyaṭē*, an equivalent of *saṁyujyātē*. According to my reading, the meaning would simply be 'is united with great sin'.—B. C. C.]

⁷ Cf. above, Vol. XXIII, p. 270.

The inscription is in prose and the language Sanskrit and perhaps old Marāṭhī in the latter part (ll. 15-20). As regards the script and orthography there is nothing new to note.¹ It is dated in Śaka 1188 Kshaya Saṁvatsara, Māgha Vadi 15, Wednesday. This would regularly correspond to Wednesday, the 26th January A. D. 1266,² provided the reading of the date is correct.³

The main object of the inscription seems to be to record the gift of land (unfortunately the details of this cannot be deciphered) to a Brāhmaṇa Valdēva, a Jyōtishī (i.e., an astronomer or astrologer) in the reign of Jaitugi, who is called Mahārājādhirāja, Rāyapitāmaha, Kōṅkaṇachakravartin. The ministers of the king were the Mahāmātya Śrī-Udaiprabhu, Mahāsāṁdhivigrahī Māināyaka, Śrīkaraṇī Chanda(?)prabhu,⁴ and others (whose names cannot be clearly read).

In the absence of the dynastic title it is difficult to identify the king. The tenor of the inscription—*birudas* of the king, names of ministers—would incline one to place the king either among the princes of the Śilāhāra dynasty of Kōṅkaṇ or of the Yādava dynasty of Dēvagiri. The grounds for referring the king to the former dynasty are that :—

- (1) The king bears the title Kōṅkaṇachakravarti which was usually borne by the Śilāhāra kings.⁵
- (2) The names of the ministers—Mahāsāṁdhivigrahī Māināyaka and Śrīkaraṇī Chanda-prabhu are found among the ministers of the last known Śilāhāra ruler Sōmēśvaradēva ;⁶ hence probably the ministers referred to in the inscriptions of Sōmēśvaradēva and our inscription are identical.

However, there are certain objections against associating Jaitugi of the inscription with the Śilāhāra dynasty. They are :—

- (1) Among the Śilāhāras no king of this name is known so far, either from inscriptions or otherwise.
- (2) Till now it is supposed, on the authority of Hēmādri⁷ (whose account was supported by the absence of epigraphic or other evidence), that Sōmēśvaradēva is the last Śilāhāra ruler of Northern Kōṅkaṇ, for the dynasty was swept out of existence when he was defeated and killed and Kōṅkaṇ annexed by Mahādēva, the Yādava ruler of Dēvagiri.

If, in spite of these objections, Jaitugi is to be considered a Śilāhāra king, then we have to suppose that he was either a son or a descendant of Sōmēśvaradēva, who regained Kōṅkaṇ for a brief period,⁸ during the closing years of Mahādēva's regime (which may have been a disturbing period for the Yādava empire, for immediately after Mahādēva, before the rightful heir Rāmachandra could succeed him, Āmaṇa occupied the throne for a year or so).⁹

¹ For the features already noted cf. the writers' comments above, Vol. XXIII, p. 270.

² S. K. Pillai, *Indian Ephemeris*, Vol. IV, p. 16.

³ *Kshaya* seems to be the most likely name of the *saṁvatsara*, as the first letter looks like *ksha*, the second is illegible, the rest are undoubtedly *saṁva*, though they cannot be clearly read. For the reading of the date and some other suggestions I am indebted to Mr. N. Lakshminarayan Rao. (H. D. S.)

⁴ [See n. 7 p. 129.—Ed.]

⁵ Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 279-280.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Rājaprasasti*, I, *verse*, 49 ; II, *verses*, 17-18 in *Bomb. Gaz.*, Vol. I, Part II, p. 273 and p. 275 respectively.

⁸ For soon after this we have Yādava records mentioning Kṛishṇadēva and Jāidēva as governors of Kōṅkaṇ. See *J. R. A. S.*, Vol. V, p. 178 and above, Vol. XXIII, p. 282.

⁹ *Bomb. Gaz.*, *op. cit.*, p. 247 citing *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, p. 317.

However, if the above be accepted, then we will have an hitherto unknown Śīlāhāra king continuing the dynasty after Sōmēśvaradēva and in a sense contradicting the account of Hēmādri cited above.

The argument in favour of identifying Jaitugi with one of the kings of the same name of the Yādava dynasty would be, besides the tenor of the inscription, that the name exactly tallies with that of the Yādava ruler.

But no king of this name lived in the period to which the inscription refers itself.¹ Secondly no Yādava ruler is known to have used the title *Kōṅkaṇachakravartī*, though to judge from the victories of Jaitugi I, Simhaṇa and Rāmachandradēva. Kōṅkaṇ must have formed a part of the Yādava empire.²

Whatever be the dynasty to which Jaitugi of the inscription belonged, the inscription is written after the style of the inscriptions of this period, and must have been issued from a place somewhere in Kōṅkaṇ. The fact, moreover, that it was issued to record a gift to an astrologer affords further evidence of the patronage of such people in Kōṅkaṇ at that time.³

Text.

- 1 ॥ श्री स्वस्ति स(श)कु(क)संवत् ११८८ जयसंव-
- 2 च्छरे माघवदि १५^५ बुधे अद्ये — — — स[म]-
- 3 स्तराजावलीसमलंकृत महाराजाधिरा-
- 4 ज रायपितामह^६ कौकणचक्रवर्ति श्री-
- 5 जैतुगिदेवरायकल्याणविजयराज्ये
- 6 महामात्य श्रीउदैप्रभु^७ महासां[धि*]विग्रही
- 7 माहनायक^८ श्रीकरणी चन्द्रप्रभु जस-
- 8 जिनायक^९ नागसु[र] आस्थान अधिष्ठा[न*]
- 9 — ^{१०}महावा^{१०}दि प्रतिपाठो । — — — — —¹⁰

¹ Unless the reading of the date is doubted. For if the date is read as Śaka 1129, Māgha Vadi 9 (as done previously by us and which corresponds regularly to 24th January A. D. 1207) then the inscription would fall in the reign of Jaitugi I, who is known from his three inscriptions (see *Bomb. Gaz., op. cit.*, pp. 370-373 and references cited there) to have made extensive conquests. Simhaṇa's son Jaitugi II is out of question for he is believed to have predeceased Simhaṇa.

² The other king of this name is found among the Paramāras of Mālwa, but his dates are V. S. 1292 and 1300 (Bhandarkar's *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, above, Vol. XXIII, Appendix, p. 397 and f. n. 14) thus falling outside the two probable readings of the date of the record.

³ Pātnā Inscription of Simhaṇa, above Vol. I, p. 343, verse 18.

⁴ This letter is defaced, cf. note 3, p. 128 above.

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ This title is very common. For references see *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, pp. 150 and 230.

⁷ Reading doubtful. [The reading appears to be *Dādā*.—N. L. R.]

⁸ Illegible.

⁹ May be *pa*.

¹⁰ Letters illegible.

- 10 — — शे¹ — — राज्ञे श्रीशेपर² ग्रामांतर — —
 11 नदि³ चेचे⁴ — — — —
 12 पक — — ।⁴ नम —⁴ आचन्द्रार्कचितिपर्वत
 13 वइदेव ज्योतिषीनाम्ने ब्राह्मणा[य]⁵
 14 —⁶ सोदकपूर्वकं प्रदत्तां । — — — — —⁷
 15 — — श्री — उत्तरे — — — — — बन्दी
 16 — — — — — परित⁷ स्वसीमापर्यंत
 17 — क — — म — — — त — — — —⁷
 18 — — — — — [सोदकपूर्वक] [प्रदत्ता]
 19 — — — — — — — — —⁸
 20 — — — — — — — — —⁸

No. 17.—BIHAR KOTRA INSCRIPTION OF NARAVARMAN'S TIME; [MALAVA]
 YEAR 474.

By S. N. CHAKRAVARTI, M.A., BOMBAY.

The stone bearing the subjoined inscription,⁹ which is edited here for the first time, was discovered at Bihar Kotra in the Rajgad State, Malwa, and is now exhibited in the Archæological Section of the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Bombay.

The document consists of six lines of writing engraved on a stone slab measuring 1' 4" × 1' 2" × 7" and is well preserved. The characters belong to the Central Indian variety of the Southern alphabet which in its simplest form closely agrees with the Western variety of the same alphabet.¹⁰ The following palæographical peculiarities may be noticed. The most important common characteristics of the Southern alphabet are found in the open top of the letters *gh*, *p*, *sh*, and *s* and also in the retention of the tripartite *y* and of the long stroke on the right of *l*. The letter *m* does not show the ancient form. It has a straight base-stroke in all cases, which indicates the influence of the Northern alphabet.

The language is Sanskrit. The orthography suggests the following remarks. A consonant is doubled before and after *r* as in *puttrēṇa* (1. 4), *chāturdāśam* and *sarva* (1. 5). The final *m* of a word remains unchanged and is denoted by the sign of final *m*, in *siddham* (1. 1) and *dvitīyāyām* (1. 3).

¹ The reading may be *viśayā*.

² [Reading may be *śrī-Jhēpa*.—N. L. R.]

³ Reading doubtful.

⁴ Letters illegible.

⁵ This letter is defaced.

⁶ Illegible.

⁷ Though some letters are legible, sense cannot be made out.

⁸ The whole line is illegible.

⁹ It was noticed by Mr. G. V. Acharya in the *Annual Report of the Prince of Wales Museum* for the year 1938-39, p. 12 and pl. facing p. 12. [This inscription has been noticed by me in *An. Rep. A. S. R.* 1938-39 where I have discussed in detail the question of Naravarman's successors including Vishnuvardhana.—Ed.]

¹⁰ Bühler's *Indian Palæography*, Eng. ed., pp. 61-2.



The inscription records the digging of a reservoir in the name of the *bhikshusaṃgha* of the four quarters for the quenching of thirst of all beings. The gift was made by one *Virasēna*, son of *Bhaṭṭimahara*, on the second day of the bright half of the month of *Śrāvaṇa* in the reign of *Mahārāja Naravarman*, when four hundred and seventy-four years had elapsed, i.e., in A. D. 417-18.

Naravarman is already known to us from the *Mandasor* inscription of the *Mālava* year 461, in which he is mentioned as the son of *Simhavarman* and the grandson of *Jayavarman*.¹ He is mentioned also in the *Gangdhar* inscription² of his son *Viśvavarman* of the *Mālava* year 480. Again, *Viśvavarman* is mentioned in the *Mandasor* inscription³ of his son *Bandhuvvarman*, who was a contemporary and also the feudatory of the Emperor *Kumāragupta I*. The inscription of *Bandhuvvarman* states that while *Bandhuvvarman* was governing at *Daśapura* (*Mandasor*), the guild of silk-weavers built at that city a temple of the Sun in the *Mālava* year 493 and that the same guild restored part of the temple, which fell into disrepair under other kings, in the *Mālava* year 529. The entire inscription was actually composed and engraved at the latter date. But it does not give us any information about the successors of *Bandhuvvarman*.⁴ Here, the present record comes to our help. *Naravarman* is described as '*aulikara*'. Now, in the *Mandasor* inscription of the *Mālava* year 589, the family of *Yaśōdharman* or *Viśṇuvardhana* is mentioned as the lineage that had the *aulikara-lāñchhana*.⁵ Evidently, *Naravarman* of our record and *Yaśōdharman* belonged to the same family. Thus *Yaśōdharman*, whose arms penetrated as far as the *Himalayas*, who was lord of the countries which were not possessed even by the *Guptas* or the *Hūṇas*, and to whose feet obeisance was made even by the famous *Hūṇa* king *Mihirakula*, can no longer be regarded as a military adventurer of the type of *Śasāṅka* of *Gauḍa* (first quarter of the seventh century) and *Yaśōvarman* of *Kanauj* (first half of the eighth century). For, from the present record we know at least one of his predecessors.

TEXT.⁶

1 [Si*]ddham⁷[|*] Śrī⁸-mmahārāja-Narvarmmanah aulikarasya⁹

2 rājya¹⁰-saṃvatsarē chaturshu varsha-śatēshu chatu[ḥ*]-

¹ Above, Vol. XII, p. 315. ² Fleet's *Gupta Inscriptions*, No. 17. ³ *Ibid.*, No. 18.

⁴ [*Prabhākara* of the *Mandasor* inscription of V. 524 was perhaps the successor, if not the son, of *Bandhuvvarman*.—Ed.]

⁵ A satisfactory explanation of the word *aulikara* has not yet been obtained. But *lāñchhana* "is the technical term for the principal emblem impressed by kings on the copper-seals attached to their charters, and is quite distinct from the emblem on their *dhvajās* or banners." Thus, the *Kadambas* of *Banavāsi* had the *śākhā-charēndra-dhvaja* or *vānara-mahādhwaja*, but the *śimha-lāñchhana* on the seals of their grants and on their coins. So also the *Chālukyas* had the *varāha-lāñchhana*. Fleet's *Gupta Inscriptions*, p. 151, note 4. [*Aulikara* may be synonymous with *limakara*.—Ed.] H l

⁶ From the original stone.

⁷ The word stands in front of, and between, lines 1 and 2.

⁸ The word *śrī*, forming the first part of a compound word, is used with a *ribhakti*. As a separate word it is used in the third case-ending, meaning *saha* or *yukta*. But in the present inscription it is used in the first case-ending. [There are other instances of this usage: e.g., *śrī-mmahārāj-Ōmavarmanā* in the *Dhavalapētā* copper-plates of *Umavarman* (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. X, p. 144).—Ed.]

⁹ The form of the initial *au* in the present record differs from that occurring in the same word *aulikara* (1. 5) in the *Mandasor* inscription of *Yaśōdharman* of the *Mālava* year 589. In the latter inscription the stroke indicating the length of *au* is attached to the upper part of the letter; in the former the lower part of the letter curves to the left and not to the right as in the *Mandasor* inscription, which expresses the length of the vowel. [The letter looks more like *ō* than *au*.—Ed.]

¹⁰ There is a vertical stroke before the word *rājya*, which apparently forms part of a letter. What looks like an *ē-mātrā* in *rājya* is merely a scratch.

- 3 [sa*] ptatēshu¹ Śrāvāṇa-śukla-dvitiyāyām Bhaṭṭimaha-
 4 ra-sat-puttrēṇa Virasēnēn-āyam=udapāṇaḥ khāni-
 5 taś=chāturddīśaṁ bhikshu-saṁgham=uddīśya sarvva-satvānām
 6 trishṇā-kshayāy-āstu² [*]

No. 18.—DHAVALAPETA PLATES OF MAHARAJA UMAVARMAN.

By R. K. GHOSHAL, M.A., CALCUTTA.

The copper-plates, which bear the subjoined inscription, were turned up by a farmer while digging his land in the village of **Dhavalapēṭa**, situated about twelve miles from Chicacole in the Vizagapatam District of Madras. The last plate of the set was melted and destroyed by the cultivator under the impression that it was made of gold. Fortunately, however, the remaining two plates of the set ultimately found their way into the hands of Mr. Manda Narasimham, in whose possession they lie at present. The plates were noticed in the *Annual Report on South Indian Epigraphy* for 1937-38³ and the inscription was published for the first time by the present owner of the plates, Mr. Narasimham⁴. I now re-edit the record from a set of excellent ink-impressions kindly supplied by Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, Government Epigraphist for India.

These are **two plates** of copper measuring 6½" by 2¾" and having their edges plain. The plates slide on, through a hole at the proper right margin of each of them, to a copper-ring the ends of which are soldered on to an elliptical **seal**, 3½" by 2½" in size. In the depression of the seal there is inscribed in relief a four-line **legend** in the same characters as those of the plates. The inscription on the seal is, however, in a very imperfect state of preservation. It is just possible that it ends, as in the case of the seal of the Bṛihatprōshthā grant⁵, with *Mahārāj-Ōmavarmmasya*. The inscription itself, which is in an excellent state of preservation, runs into twelve lines with four lines given to each of the three plates⁶. The first plate, which has been slightly damaged, is inscribed on its inner side only; while the second one contains writing on both of its faces.

The **characters** belong to the Southern class of alphabets. They closely resemble those of the Bṛihatprōshthā plates of Umavarman⁷ and the Rāgōlu plates of Śaktivarman⁸. Some of their leading features are the following: (1) the initial *a* occurs once in *asty*= (1. 4) and *ā* in *ā-sahasrāmśu*- (1. 6) and (2) the final forms of *m* and *t*, which are engraved in smaller characters, are found in *kartavyam* (1. 9) and *Sunagarāt* (1. 1) respectively. The letter *chha* occurs in *Chhandōga* (1. 5).

In respect of **orthography**, the following points deserve notice. (1) A consonant has been invariably doubled after *r* and only once before it (*Cf. kkrama*, l. 11). (2) Both *b* and *v* have been indicated by separate signs. The rules of *sandhi* have been faithfully adhered to.

The **language** is Sanskrit and the whole of the extant portion of the record is in prose. The **inscription** is **incomplete**, owing to the fact that the last plate of the set had been foolishly destroyed.

¹ Read *sa-chatuḥ-saptatishu*.

² After *āstu* there are faint traces of two slanting strokes. These may be scratches rather than the mark of *pūrṇavirāma*, i.e. full-stop.

³ C. P. No. 22.

⁴ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. X, pp. 143-44 and plates.

⁵ Above, Vol. XII, p. 4.

⁶ The complete inscription must have run into 16 lines at least, granting another four lines in addition for the missing plate.

⁷ Above, Vol. XII, pp. 4-6 and plates.

⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 1-3 and plates.

The engraver has done his work neatly. He has, however, left a few evidences of occasional remissness on his part as will be evident from two or three minor corrections in the text of the inscription (*Cf.* lines 4 and 6) which he inserted subsequently.

The inscription is one of *Mahārāja* Umavarman. It was issued from Sunagara. It records the gift of the village of Kuttura including the road (passing through it). The village was situated in the *Mahendra bhōga*. The donee was a Brāhmaṇa named Khallasvāmin, who belonged to the Vatsa *gōtra* and was a student of the Chhandōga *śākhā*. The gift village was constituted into a free-hold *agrahāra*. After announcing the nature of the gift, the record urges the householders of the village to honour the same. The names of the writer and the engraver of the inscription and, what would have been of outstanding importance to us, the date, have not been preserved owing to the fragmentary nature of the inscription.

The chief interest of the record under discussion naturally centres round the personality of its donor. As many as three separate copper-plate inscriptions (including the present one) have come to light up till now, with their provenances remarkably restricted in area. Each of these inscriptions speaks of a king called Umavarman. For convenience' sake, I append the relevant data in tabular form as follows :—

Name of Inscription.	Place of Origin.	Distinctive titles of Donor-King.	Year.	Scribe.
1. Tēkkali ¹ (Ganjām District)	Vardhamānapura	<i>Mahārāja</i>	9	Kēśavadēva, a resident of Pishtapura.
2. Brihatprōshthā ² (Vizagapatam District).	Simhapura ³	<i>Mahārāja, Kaling-ādhipati.</i>	30	Mātrivara ⁴ (name restored).
3. Dhavalapēṭa (Vizagapatam District).	Sunagara	<i>Mahārāja</i>	not preserved.	not preserved.

¹ J. A. H. R. S., Vol. VI, pp. 53-54. Also noticed in the *Ann. Rep. on South Indian Epigraphy* for 1934-35 (C. P. No. 13). It is noteworthy that although the plates came from the Ganjām District, the place from which they were issued, viz., Vardhamānapura, has been identified (*Ann. Rep. on S.-I. E.*, p. 52) with Vaḍama situated in the Palkonda *tāluk* of the Vizagapatam District. Further the scribe of this record professes to have been a resident of Pishtapura, identified with modern Pithāpuram in the same district.

² Above, Vol. XII, pp. 4-6.

³ Dr. E. Hultzsch's reading of this word as *Siḥapura* (Above, Vol. XII, p. 5, *Text*, line 1) does not appear to be borne out by the facsimile of the inscription. The correct reading, I believe, is, as elsewhere, *Simhapura*. The medial *i* sign of *Si* with an *anusvāra* enclosed in its top loop, is clearly visible in the facsimile. *Cf.* in this connection the word *Simhapura* in the Kōmarti Plates of Chāṇḍavarman (Above, Vol. IV, plate facing p. 144 line 1).

⁴ The Tirithāṇa Plates of Chāṇḍavarman (*Ann. Rep. on S.-I. Epigraphy* for 1934-35, C. P. No. 12), which is being edited by me for publication in the present journal, has for its scribe a person called *Dēśākshapatnādhikṛita* Rudradatta, son of Mātrivara. The damaged condition of the Brihatprōshthā grant prevented Dr. E. Hultzsch from correctly deciphering (Above, Vol. XII, p. 5, *Text*, line 16) the name of the writer of the same. This name has now been happily restored by Mr. C. R. Krishnamachari (*Ann. Rep. on S.-I. E.* for 1934-35, p. 51 and *Ann. Rep. of the Arch. Surv. Ind.*, 1934-35, p. 64) as Mātrivara, who has further been identified with his namesake mentioned in the Tirithāṇa grant as being the father of its writer, Rudradatta. Thus, the Brihatprōshthā and the Tirithāṇa grants, between themselves, reveal the existence of a family of scribes who plied their trade in two royal courts of ancient Kalinga. The pedigree of this family, or rather a part of it as far as known, may be set forth as follows :—

Haridatta
|
Mātrivara
|
Rudradatta.

Scholars have widely differed on the question of the identity of the Umavarman of the records mentioned above. Some have sought to differentiate the donor of the Bṛihatprōshthā grant from that of the other two ; while others are less sure on the matter.

To be sure, the problem, though admittedly of a ticklish nature, does not seem entirely beyond the range of a solution.

Of one thing we may at once regard ourselves as fairly sure : viz., a decided affinity between the Bṛihatprōshthā grant and the record under discussion. Both of them come from the Vizagapatam District of Madras. Of more practical importance for our present purposes is the palæography of the inscriptions concerned. They show the same thick-set ductus of writing ; the characters have in both cases a tendency to assume a squat and rounded shape. The phraseology, especially in the formal parts of the two records, is almost identical in both. Lastly, the seals of the two grants present the same features.

In short, the Bṛihatprōshthā and the Dhavalapēṭa records betray a striking homogeneity and family-likeness which eliminate the supposition of some mere chance or coincidence : a fact which justifies the assumption that the two records may have been drafted under the auspices of an identical ruler, and if not by an identical hand, at least by persons not far removed from each other in point of time. To be more precise, it brings the Dhavalapēṭa grant very near to the date (Year 30) given in the Bṛihatprōshthā grant. In fact, I believe that the **Umavarman of the Bṛihatprōshthā grant is to be regarded as identical with his namesake of the record under discussion.**

There is also, I think, reason to believe that the Dhavalapēṭa plates were issued immediately before the Bṛihatprōshthā grant : for, in the latter record Umavarman is made to assume the ambitious (though, at this period, all too common) title of '*Kaliṅgādhipati*', which is absent in the Dhavalapēṭa plates. The Bṛihatprōshthā grant, therefore, seems to have been issued on the occasion of some notable military success won by Umavarman at the expense of some local ruler.

I am at present not in a position to identify the localities mentioned in the inscription.

Palæographically, our inscription has to be referred to the **first half of the 5th century A. D.** As such, it falls into line with such other early records from Kaliṅga as the Kōmarti Plates of Chaṇḍavarman¹, Jirjingi Plates of Indravarman², etc.

TEXT.³

First Plate.

- 1 'Om Svasti [|*] Sunagarāt paramadaivata-bappa-bhaṭṭāraka-pād-ā-
- 2 audhyātah śrīr-mmahārāj-Ōmavarmma Mahēndra-bhōgō Kuttu-
- 3 ra-grāmō sarvva-samanvāgatān=kuṭumbinas=samājūāpa-
- 4 [ya]ti [|*] asty-ēsha grāmō-smābhir-ātmana⁴[h*] puṇy-āyu[r*]-⁵ yaśō-bhivṛiddha-

¹ Above, Vol. IV, pp. 142 ff. and plates.

² Above, Vol. XXV, pp. 281 ff.

³ From ink-impressions.

⁴ The ornamental symbol representing Ōm has been engraved at the beginning of line 2.

⁵ The letter na had been originally passed over by the engraver and was subsequently inserted at the foot of the line.

⁶ The letter ya of yaśō- has been engraved below the line, the correction being indicated by a little × mark at the top.

DHAVALAPETA PLATES OF MAHARAJA UMAVARMAN.

i.

1
2
3
4

1
2
3
4

1
2
3
4

ii, a.

6
8

6
8

6
8

ii, b.

10
12

10
12

10
12

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 5 yē Vatsa-sagōtrāva Chhandōga-sabrahmachāriṇē brāhma-
 6 ṇa-Khallasvāminē ā-sahasrāṁśu-śaśi¹-tāraka-pratishṭha-
 7 m-agrahāra[m] kṛitvā sarvva-kara-parihārai=cha parihṛitya
 8 sampradattas-saha vātakēna[*] tad=ēvaṁ viditvā yushmābhiḥ

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 9 pūrvv-ōchita-maryyādā(da)y=ōpasthānam karttavyam[*] yach=ch=ātra
 10 kimchid-utpadyatē mēya-hirany-ādi tat=sarvvam=u-
 11 panēyam[*] bhaviṣhyataś=cha rājñō vijñāpayati[*] dharmma-kkrama-
 12 [vikra]māṇam=anyatama-yōgād=avāpra mahim=anusāsata²

TRANSLATION.

(Ll. 1-4) Ōm Hail ! From **Sunagara**, the illustrious king (*Mahārāja*) **Umavarman**, who is a devout worshipper of the gods and devoted to the feet of (*his*) father, commands all the householders *en masse* at the Village of **Kuttura** (*which is situated*) in the Mahēndra-bhōga (*as follows*) :

(Ll. 4-8) “ We have granted this village including the road³ (*passing through* it), for the increase of (*Our*) own religious merit, life and fame, to the Brāhmaṇa, Khallasvāmin, who belongs to the Vatsa *gōtra* and who is a religious student of the Chhandōga *śākhā*, after making it an *agrahāra*, which is to last as long as the sun, the moon and the stars, and exempting it from the liability of paying all taxes.

(Ll. 8-11) “ Having known this, you should regard (*this gift*) with the honour as obtaining heretofore ; you should also surrender (*to the donee*) whatever grows on this (*soil*) (*in the shape of*) grain (*mēya*), gold, etc.”

(Ll. 11-12) The King further exhorts the future rulers (*as follows*) : “ Having obtained possession of the earth either by right, or by succession, or by valour and ruling (*it*).....

No. 19.—SPURIOUSNESS OF THE NALANDA PLATE OF SAMUDRAGUPTA.

By DINES CHANDRA SIRCAR, M.A., PH.D., CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

There is a controversy over the character of the Nālandā Plate of Samudragupta dated in the year 5. In *A. S. I., An. Rep.*, 1927-28, p. 138. Dr. Hirananda Sastri says, “ As in the latter document (*i.e.*, the Gayā Plate) so in the one under notice (*i.e.*, the Nālandā Plate), the epithets of Samudragupta from *Sarvva-rāj-ōchchhēttuḥ* (line 1) to *Licchhivi-dauhitrasya* (line 4) are given in the genitive case, but *Kumārādēvyām=utpannaḥ Paramabhāgavatō mahārājādhirāja-śrī-Samudraguptaḥ* in the nominative case. Obviously, therefore, this new plate must also be treated as spurious”. Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, however, points out that “one ungrammatical clause, which is common to both, is not enough to stamp either as spurious. On the other hand, the alphabet of this Plate (*i.e.*, the Nālandā Plate) is really of the time of Samudragupta, though

¹ This word, which the scribe forgot to engrave, has been inserted at the top of the line.

² Following the text of the Brihatprōsthā grant, one might restore the rest of this sentence as *=anusāsātām=pravṛitakam=idam=dānam sad-dharmmam=anupaśyadbhir=śākhō-grahārō=nupālyah[*]*.

³ The other alternative meanings of this word *vātika* such as ‘garden’, ‘orchard’, etc., do not seem to be applicable here.

that of No. 1540 (i.e., the Gayā Plate) is of the 8th century"¹. Thus while Dr. Sastri declares the record to be spurious, Dr. Bhandarkar admits the possibility of its genuineness. Mr. A. Ghosh, who has recently edited² the Nālandā plate, is, "on the whole, inclined to think that the genuineness of the present Plate is not above suspicion"³. Mr. Ghosh rightly points out⁴ that the authenticity of the Nālandā record would indicate an abnormally long period for three generations, viz., Samudragupta, Chandragupta II and Kumāragupta I. Further, he points out⁵ the indiscriminate use of *v* and *b* which is *abundant* in both the Gayā and Nālandā Plates as a "feature, remarkable for the Gupta period". He, however, does not lay much emphasis on this point. Such use is not found in the genuine records of the early Gupta kings⁶. This characteristic, therefore, appears to suggest that the record is a late forgery.

Samudragupta's epithet *chir-ōtsann-āśvamēdh-āhartuḥ* is, again, very suspicious. It is only used in the records of his successors and is conspicuous by its absence from the elaborate description of his achievements in the Allahābād pillar inscription. It is indeed highly improbable that Samudragupta performed the horse-sacrifice before the fifth year of his reign or of the Gupta era.

The most important point in this connection is, in my opinion, the title *Paramabhāgavata* applied to the name of Samudragupta in both the Gayā and Nālandā Plates. That Samudragupta was not a *Paramabhāgavata* is proved beyond doubt by the striking facts that he is nowhere given that title and that several records of the later members of his family mention the names of Samudragupta and his predecessors without that title, but, at the same time, apply it to the names of all his successors. The Gupta genealogy given in the Bhitārī pillar inscription⁷ of Skandagupta, may be cited as an example.

That Samudragupta was not a *Paramabhāgavata* is proved not only by the inscriptions, but also by the evidence of coins. The title is found with the names of Chandragupta II, Kumāragupta I and Skandagupta on a number of their coin-types, but not with the name of Samudragupta on any of his numerous types⁸.

The above facts prove that as Chandragupta I was the first *Mahārājādhirāja*, so was Chandragupta II the first *Paramabhāgavata* among the Gupta emperors. There is reason to believe that the latter king was at the root of the great popularity of the Bhāgavata religion and of such titles as *Paramabhāgavata* from the 4th-5th century A. D. Samudragupta might have been a Vaishṇava⁹, but he was evidently not a *Bhāgavata*, i.e., follower of the Bhāgavata form of Vaishnavism.

There is thus hardly any doubt that the epithets of Samudragupta in the Nālandā Plate were copied from the records of his successors. The Nālandā Plate is therefore forged and is certainly later than "the time of Samudragupta".

¹ *List of the Inscriptions of Northern India*, No. 2075, n. 1. Dr. Bhandarkar lays great stress on the early script used in the Nālandā Plate. It is, however, always very easy for a forger to copy the script only four centuries older.

² Above, Vol. XXV, pp. 50 ff.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 51.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 52.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 50.

⁶ There is not a single instance of the indiscriminate use of *v* and *b* in any of the genuine records of the Gupta kings edited by Fleet in *C. I. I.*, Vol. III. The earliest use noticed there is in the Khōh grant of Hastin dated in the Gupta year 156 (*Ibid.*, p. 94).

⁷ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, pp. 52 ff.; *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIX, p. 225, n.

⁸ Allan, *Catalogue of the Coins of the Gupta Dynasties*, pp. 161—62.

⁹ The Garuḍa emblem on his coins may suggest that his religion was Vaishnavism. But this is not beyond doubt. Śālaṅkāyana Dēvavarman was a *Paramamāhēśvara*, but Nandivarmān II a *Paramabhāgavata*. They, however, not only used the same Śaivite emblem on their seals, but also advocated their devotion to Chitrarathasvāmin, the family deity of the Śālaṅkāyanas (Sircar, *Successors of the Śātavāhanas*, Calcutta, 1939, p. 84). Such emblems appear to have been connected with the faith of the founder of a particular royal line.

No. 20.—BASIM PLATES OF VAKATAKA VINDHYASAKTI II.

BY MAHĀMAHĀPĀDHYĀYA PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A. AND D. B. MAHAJAN, B.A.

These plates were discovered by Pandit Vasudev Śāstrī Dhanagare at Bāsim, the headquarters of the Bāsim *tālukā* of the Akolā District in Berār. They were brought to the notice of scholars at the second session of the Indian History Congress held at Calcutta in December 1939 when Mr. Y. K. Deshpande read an article on them contributed by him jointly with Mr. D. B. Mahajan, B.A., Superintendent of Land Records, Akolā. The article is expected to be published soon in the *Proceedings* of the Congress¹. We re-edit the inscription here with the consent of Pandit Dhanagare and Mr. Y. K. Deshpande.

The copper-plates are four in number, each measuring 6·1" broad and 3·4" high. The first and fourth plates are inscribed on one side only and the other two on both the sides. Their ends are neither fashioned thicker nor raised into rims; still the inscription is in a good state of preservation. About 1·2" from the middle of the proper right edge of each plate, there is a round hole ·25" in diameter for the ring which holds the plates together. The ring, however, has no seal.² The total weight of the plates together with the ring is 47½ *tolas*. The inscription contains thirty lines of writing which are equally distributed on the six inscribed faces of the four plates.

The characters are of the box-headed variety of the South-Indian alphabet, resembling those of the copper-plate inscriptions of Pravarasēna II. As in the latter, the medial *au* is bipartite, see *-parutrasya*, l. 3; *kh* has a loop at the bottom in *likhitam*, l. 29 and *rakkhāpedha*, l. 25, but not in *kkhanaka*, l. 20 and *rakkhadha*, l. 25; *t* and *n* are not distinguished in many places, both being denoted by the same looped form, see *=vachanāt*, l. 5 and *hēmanā*, l. 28; in *anumanṇati*, l. 26, on the other hand, *n* appears without a loop exactly like *i*. It is again noteworthy that the lingual *n* has an identical form whether it is used as a subscript or a superscript letter, see *a-hiraṇṇa-dhāṇṇa* l. 20, while in the grants³ of Pravarasēna II, the Tālagunda inscription⁴ of Kākusthavarman and other records of the period, the subscript *n* has generally the same form as the dental *n*. Numerical symbols for 30, 7 and 4 occur in lines 28 and 29 of the text and those for 1 to 4 on the first inscribed side of the respective plates. Of these, the symbol for 4 in line 29 is noteworthy; for it consists of the sign for *ka* with an additional curve, not at the top as usual,⁵ but at the right side of its horizontal bar. In the margin of the same plate, the symbol is exactly like *ka*. A final consonant is indicated by its short form without a box at the head, see *=vachanāt*, l. 5. Finally a crescent-like curve is used here and there as a mark of punctuation which is redundant in most cases. The language of the inscription is partly Sanskrit and partly Prākṛit. The genealogical portion of the grant in lines 1-5 is in Sanskrit; the formal portion which follows is in Prākṛit, but like the Hīrahaḍagalli plates, the present inscription closes with a benedictory sentence in Sanskrit.⁶ It is noteworthy that as in the early Prākṛit inscriptions of the Pallavas and

¹ The article has been published since this was sent to the press. See *Proceedings* of the Indian History Congress, Third Session, pp. 449 ff. and plates.

² All the complete grants of Pravarasēna II, which have been published so far, have a round seal with a metrical legend, but without any device, see, e.g., the seal of the Tirōḍi plates, above, Vol. XXII, plate facing p. 173.

³ See, e.g., *suvarṇa* in l. 45 of the Paṭṭan plates of Pravarasēna II, above, Vol. XXIII, p. 87.

⁴ Above, Vol. VIII, p. 25 and n. 2.

⁵ See Bühler's *Indische Palaeographie*, Tafel IX.

⁶ In the Hīrahaḍagalli plates (above, Vol. I, pp. 2 ff.) the expression is *Svasti gō-brāhmaṇa-lēkhaka-vāchaka=brōṣṭrībhya iṣi*, while in the present grant it is *Siddhīr=astu*.

Brihatphalāyanas, there are no benedictive or imprecatory verses at the end. The Sanskrit portion calls for no special notice except that the *gōtra* of the Vākātakas which is usually given as Vishṇuvṛiddha, appears here in the form Vṛishṇivṛiddha. The former is evidently the correct form, for it is the only form of the *gōtra* given by the standard works¹ on *gōtras* and *pravaras*. The Prākṛit portion of the inscription deserves careful study; for, this is one of the few copper-plate grants from South India which contain a detailed portion in Prākṛit. Even in this portion, however, the language is influenced by Sanskrit; see, for instance, the Sanskrit expressions *svasti-śānti-vāchanē*, ll. 8-9, *sa-māñcha-mahākaraṇa*, l. 24 and *a-damyamāṇam*,² l. 25, which are inserted in the midst of Prākṛit sentences. As shown below, the present grant has many technical expressions mentioning exemptions granted to the donees which are common to the grants of the Pallava Śivaskandavarman, but unlike the latter the present inscription shows several instances of double consonants, though cases of single consonants doing duty for double ones are by no means rare, see, e.g., *chātuvvejja-ggāma-majjātā*, l. 19, *a-puppha-kkhira-ggahaṇa*, l. 21, *Vidhijjesi*, l. 13, *Sivajjesi*, l. 16, etc. and contrast them with *Revatijesi*, l. 18, *Chāndajesi*, l. 14, etc. In some respects the language of the present record does not strictly conform to the rules of Prākṛit grammarians, see, e.g., *tiṇṇā* (Sanskrit, *trayaḥ*) in l. 17 instead of *tiṇṇi* laid down by Vararuchi, VI, 56; *tissa* in l. 27 instead of *tassa*³. Other noteworthy forms are *se* in l. 19 in the sense of *tasya*,⁴ *ya* in ll. 7, 19, 25 and 26 meaning *cha*,⁵ and the euphonic nasal in *etthaṇ-gāme* in l. 9. As for the dialect used, it is, as might be expected, the Mahārāshṭrī, see, e.g., *āpuṇo* (for the regular *appaṇo*⁶) in l. 8, but it is curious to note that this record found in the heart of Mahārāshṭra exhibits some peculiarities which are usually ascribed to the Śaurasēnī; see, e.g., the softening of *tḥ* into *dḥ* in *Ādhivvaṇika*, l. 9 and the verbal forms *rakkhadha*, *rakkhāpedha*, *pariharadha* and *pariharāpedha*⁷ in lines 25 and 26 and *dāṇi*⁸ in l. 8. On the other hand, we have hardening of *d* into *t* in *-majjātā*, l. 19, as in the Paisāchī⁹. These forms show that the peculiarities of the several dialects were not strictly confined to the provinces after which they were named.

Especially noteworthy are the forms in *si* (or, *sim*) used in the sense of the dative, e.g., *Jivujjesim* (Sanskrit, *Jivāryāya*), *Ruddajjesi* (Sanskrit, *Rudrāryāya*), etc., in ll. 10-18. According to grammarians¹⁰ the dative case has disappeared from the Prākṛits, its place being taken by the genitive. The genitive singular of nouns in *a* usually ends in *ssa* (written as *sa* in very early records) and this is the form which is invariably found in other Prākṛit inscriptions. In the present grant, on the other hand, we find the form in *si* (or *sim*)¹¹ used throughout. It

¹ See, e.g., the *Gōtrapravaranibandhakadamba*, pp. 44, etc.

² [See below p. 153, n. 4—Ed.]

³ Vararuchi, VI, 6 mentions *tissā* as genitive singular in the feminine.

⁴ *Ibid.*, VI, 11.

⁵ Similarly *ya* is used in this sense in line 6 of the Mayidavōlu plates (above, Vol. VI, p. 87) and in lines 12 and 14 of the Ellore plates of the Śālikāyana Dēvavarman, *ibid.*, Vol. IX, pp. 58 and 59.

⁶ Vararuchi, V, 46. The Hirahadagalli plates have *appaṇa* in l. 8. In Śaurasēnī the form would be *attanō*.

⁷ Vararuchi, XII, 3. It may be noted that the Mayidavōlu plates of Śivaskandavarman in l. 20 and the British Museum plates of Chārudēvī (above, Vol. VIII, p. 146) in l. 11 have *pariharatha* and *pariharāpetha*.

⁸ Hēmachandra lays down *dāṇim* in VIII, 4, 277, but says that the final *anusvāra* is optionally dropped (VIII, l. 29). The Hirahadagalli plates (l. 7) have the same form as here, while the Mayidavōlu plates (l. 5) and the Koṇḍamudi plates (above, Vol. VI, p. 317, l. 7) have *dāṇi*.

⁹ It is noteworthy that *-majātāye* occurs in l. 45 of the Hirahadagalli plates and *-majādāya* in l. 18 of the Mayidavōlu plates. Both these records are of the same period and come from the same part of South India.

¹⁰ Vararuchi, VI, 64.

¹¹ *Sim* is used only in three or four places in ll. 10-12.

seems to have been modelled on the genitive plural forms of pronouns, e.g., *jesim*, *tesim*, *kesim*, etc., just as the pronominal form *etāna* is made on the analogy of *bāmhaṇāna*¹ which accompanies it in l. 17. This form in *si* has survived in old Marāṭhī works like the *Līlācharitra* and the *Jñānēśvari* and is plainly the source of the modern Marāṭhī affix *sa*. Scholars have long been in doubt about the origin of this affix. Some derived it from the Prākṛit affix *ssa*, but as Dr. R. G. Bhandarkar has pointed out the form in *sa* does not occur in old Marāṭhī works which throughout exhibit only the form in *si*². Other origins of this affix have been suggested. Bhandarkar traced it to the Sanskrit word *sama*³ and Rajvade to *āsa*⁴ (meaning 'near'). The numerous forms in *si* which occur in the sense of the dative in the present inscription leave no doubt that this affix is the real parent of the Marāṭhī affix *sa*.

The only orthographical peculiarities that call for notice are the reduplication of a consonant after *r* (as in *Dharmma*-, l. 1) and *anusvāra* (in *kata[n]vva*, l. 26 and *sā[m*]vchchharam*, l. 28), the use of *j* for *y* in *karejja*, l. 26 and *kerejjāma*, l. 28, and the use of the class nasal in place of an *anusvāra* in Sanskrit and Prākṛit words, see, e.g., *Vindhyaśaktēr*, and *Nāndikaḍasa*, l. 5, *a-chamm-aṅgālika*, l. 22 and *sa-māñcha-mahākaraṇa*, l. 24, etc.

Like other finished Vākāṭaka grants, the present inscription opens with the word *drishṭam*,⁵ 'seen', the auspicious word *siddham* being written in the margin of the first plate as in the Hirahadagalli plates of Śivaskandavarman.⁶ The inscription refers itself to the reign of the Vākāṭaka king, the Dharmamahārāja Vindhyaśakti. The object of it is to register the grant, by Vindhyaśakti, of the village *Ākāśapadda*⁷ which was situated near Tākālakkhōppaka on the road going north from Nāndikaḍa. The donees were certain Brāhmaṇas of the Ātharvaṇa *charaṇa* or Atharvavēda. Brāhmaṇas of this Vēda, though now practically non-existent in the Central Provinces and Berār, were apparently not so rare in the age of the Vākāṭakas; for, the Tirōḍi plates⁸ of the Vākāṭaka king Pravarasēna II also register the grant of a village in the Bālāghāt District of the Central Provinces to a Brāhmaṇa of the Atharvavēda. The names of all the donees mentioned in lines 10-18 end in *ajja* (or, *aja*, Sanskrit, *ārya*) as in the early grants of the Pallavas, Brīhatphalāyanas and Ānandas. The land or the revenue of the village was divided into four parts, of which three were assigned to eight Brāhmaṇas and the remaining one to one Brāhmaṇa. The shares of the former, again, were not equal; four of them received only half a share⁹ and the remaining four, two shares¹⁰ each.

¹ Forms like *etāna* are, of course, recognised by Vararuchi, VI, 4.

² R. G. Bhandarkar, *Wilson Philological Lectures* (publ. in 1914), p. 204.

³ According to Bhandarkar the origin of the Marāṭhī affix *sa* is the same as that of Hindi *sē*, Gujarātī *sē* or *syā* and Sindhi *sē* or *sā*, *ibid.*, p. 251.

⁴ Rajvade, *Jñānēśvarichē Vyākaraṇa*, (Marāṭhī), p. 11.

⁵ This word does not occur in the beginning of the unfinished Bālāghāt plates of Prithivishēna II (above Vol. IX, p. 270) and the unfinished Drug plate, (*ibid.*, Vol. XXII, p. 212.)

⁶ In the Poona plates of Prabhāvatiguptā (above, Vol. XV, plate facing p. 42), on the other hand, *drishṭam* is written in the margin and *siddham* in the first line.

⁷ The name of the village is used in the plural just like *Valūrakesu* in inscription No. 13 at Kārle (above, Vol. VII, p. 57).

⁸ Above, Vol. XXII, p. 172.

⁹ The text has *ādhaka* in l. 10, which probably means 'a half'. Compare *amsik-ādhā* in l. 21 of the Koṇḍamudi plates of Jayavarman (above, Vol. VI, p. 317). *Addhikā* which occurs in l. 39 of the Hirahadagalli plates (above, Vol. I, p. 9 and n. 24) has, however, been translated by Bühler as 'labourers'.

¹⁰ *Paṭa* in l. 15 corresponds to *pati-bhāga* or *pati-bhāga* in the Hirahadagalli plates (ll. 12, 13, etc., *passim*). In the Gōraṇṭla plates of Attivarman *patti* is used in the sense of a measure of land. *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. IX, p. 103. Is *patti* or *pata* identical with *pātaka* which is mentioned as a measure of land in the Gunaighar copper-plate of Vainyagupta? See *Ind. His. Quart.*, Vol. VI, pp. 45 ff.

The plates are dated in the 37th year (expressed in numerical symbols) evidently of the reign of the donor Vindhyaśakti, on the 4th day of the first fortnight of Hēmanṭa. This date does not admit of verification and there is no reference to any era, but that the record must be referred to an early period in the age of the Vākāṭakas appears not only from the use of the Prākṛit language in its formal portion but also from the manner of dating it; for such a season-date is met with only in one other Vākāṭaka inscription, viz., the Dudia plates¹ of Pravara-sēna II. The present grant was written by the *Sēnāpati* Vaṇhu (Vishṇu) and was issued from Vatsagulma. Only one other grant is known to have been issued from this place, viz., that recorded in the India Office plate² of the Vākāṭaka king Dēvasēna.

Vatsagulma was probably the capital of Vindhyaśakti. It seems to have continued to be the Vākāṭaka capital at least down to the time of Dēvasēna and evidently attained great importance in course of time; for it gave its name to a particular style. In the opening verse of his Prākṛit play *Karpūramañjarī*, Rājāsēkhara mentions Vachchhomī (which plainly corresponds to the Sanskrit Vātsagulmī) as a *rīti* together with the Māgadhi and the Pāñchālī. Vachchhomī is clearly identical with Vaidarbhi. The latter form is derived from the name of the country of Vidarbha and the former from that of its capital Vachchhoma (Vatsagulma). Dr. Randle has shown by reference to the *Kāmasūtra* that the Vatsagulma country was situated in the south and that it corresponds to the Vākāṭaka kingdom.³ Rājāsēkhara also tells us in his *Karpūramañjarī*⁴ that Vachchhoma was situated in the Dakṣiṇāpatha. The importance of Vatsagulma as a centre of culture is suggested by the same author in his rhetorical work *Kāvya-mīmāṃsā*.⁵ In the third *adhyāya* of it, Rājāsēkhara states that the mythical Kāvya-purusha married the Sāhityavidyā at Vatsagulma in Vidarbha which is the pleasure-resort of the god of love. Vatsagulma was evidently known as a centre of learning in the time of Rājāsēkhara. This place is identical with Bāsim where the present plates were found. It is now regarded as a holy *kṣētra* and there are said to be as many as 108 *tīrthas* in it, associated with different gods and sages. The place-name is variously derived. The *Jayamaṅgalā*, a commentary on the *Kāmasūtra*⁶ states that Vatsa and Gulma were two uterine brothers and princes of Dakṣiṇāpatha. The country settled by them came to be known as Vātsagulmaka. The local *Māhātmya* gives an altogether different derivation. It states that Vatsa was a sage who by his very severe austerities made an assemblage (*gulma*) of gods come down and settle in the vicinity of his hermitage. Since then the place came to be known as Vatsagulma.⁷ Nāndikaḍa, which was apparently the headquarters of a district,⁸ is probably identical with Nāndēd, the chief town of a district of the same name in the Nizām's dominions. Tākālakkhōppaka and the donated village Ākāsapadda which was situated near it cannot be definitely identified. From the description in line 6 we learn that they lay on the road going to the North from Nāndikaḍa. Now, on the road which connects Nāndēd with Bāsim which lies about 75 miles to the north of it, there are two villages Tākaliḡohan and Tākali about 40 and 43

¹ Above, Vol. III, p. 262.

² *New Indian Antiquary*, Vol. II, p. 180.

³ *Loc. cit.*, p. 179.

⁴ See *Karpūramañjarī* (Harvard Oriental Series ed.), p. 26.

⁵ Gaeckwad's Oriental Series, ed. (1916), p. 10.

⁶ *Kāmasūtra* (Nirṇayasāgara Press ed.), p. 295. The *Bṛhatkathā* also mentions that Vatsa and Gulma were sons of a Brāhmaṇa and maternal uncles of Guṇādhyā, but it does not state that they founded a city named Vatsagulma. See *Bṛhatkathāmañjarī*, I, 3, 4, and *Kathāsaritsāgara*, I, 6, 9.

⁷ *Akolā District Gazetteer*, pp. 325 ff.

⁸ Similar names ending in *kaḍa* (e.g., *Ehōḷakaḍa*, *Eēnnākaḍa*) occur in other grants of the Vākāṭakas as names of districts.

miles respectively from Nāndēd. One of these may represent ancient Tākālakkhōppaka. About seven miles to the west of Tākaligōhan there is still a small village named Āsunḍ which is possibly identical with Ākasapadda. The identification of Nāndikaḍa with Nāndēd, which is almost certain, shows that Vindhyaśakti was ruling over southern Berār and the northern parts of the Nizām's Dominions.

Having thus disposed of the formal part of the grant, let us now turn to the **historical information** furnished by it.

The present inscription gives the following **genealogy** of the donor Vindhyaśakti: **Pravarasēna**, his son **Sarvasēna** and the latter's son **Vindhyaśakti**. In connection with Vindhyaśakti, the inscription purports to state that he had performed the Agnishtōma, Aptōryāma, Vājapēya, Jyōtishthōma, Bṛhaspatisava Sādyaskra and four Āśvamōdhas, and that he was a *Hārītiputra* (a son, i. e., a descendant of Hārītī) and *Dharmamahārāja*.¹ These two latter epithets are found applied to a Vākāṭaka king in the present grant only; for, they are nowhere mentioned in any of the grants of Prabhāvatiguptā, Pravarasēna II and Prithivishēna II. They seem to have been adopted from the grants of the Kadambas. As only one Vindhyaśakti is known to history, viz., the one who is mentioned in the Vāyu and Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇas and in the stone inscription in cave No. XVI at Ajaṇṭā, it was at first naturally supposed that the donor of the plates was identical with the celebrated founder of the Vākāṭaka dynasty.² The use of the Prākṛit language in a portion of this record lent colour to this view; for, all other known Vākāṭaka inscriptions—whether on stone or on copper—are invariably in Sanskrit. The Bāsim plates were therefore supposed to carry the genealogy of the Vākāṭakas two generations before Vindhyaśakti. A closer examination of the record has, however, shown that this identification cannot be upheld. The genealogical portion of the grant is faulty in construction; for it seems to repeat the epithet *Dharmamahārāja* three times in connection with Vindhyaśakti³. Besides, it credits Vindhyaśakti with the performance of almost the same number of identical sacrifices as those mentioned in connection with Pravarasēna I in all other Vākāṭaka grants⁴. It seems therefore that the expressions *śrī-Pravarasēna-*

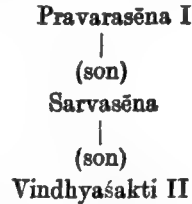
¹ The title *Dharmamahārāja*, which Hindu kings assumed in the early centuries of the Christian era, seems to have been suggested by the analogous one *Dharmamahāmūtra* which appears as the title of a high official in the inscriptions of Aśoka. We find it for the first time in the Hiraṇyagallī grant of the Pallava king Śivaskandavarman. It is, however, noteworthy that the title was mentioned in Pallava grants only in connection with the name of the contemporary ruling king; for, in the early Sanskrit grants of the Pallavas which mention three generations (e. g., the Pikira and Mangalūr grants of Simhavarman, above, Vol. VIII, p. 162; *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. V, p. 155), the title is applied only to the ruling king who made the particular gift. This is probably the reason why the title does not occur in the Mayidavōlu plates of Śivaskandavarman, for he was only a *Yuvarāja* when he issued the plates. The Kadambas adopted this title from the Pallavas after whom they rose to power. Their grants, however, mention this title even in connection with the ancestors of the ruling kings, see, e. g., the Bannahalli plates of Krishṇavarman II, above, Vol. VI, pp. 18 ff. The present Bāsim plates have adopted the same custom; for, as shown below, they mention this title in connection with the name of all the three kings, Pravarasēna, Sarvasēna and Vindhyaśakti. In some later Kadamba grants we find the title mentioned in connection with the names of old kings only, which shows that it went out of use in course of time. Like the Kadambas the Early Chālukyas also called themselves Hārītiputras, but they rose to power long after the Vākāṭakas.

² This view is maintained in the article which was read at the Calcutta session of the Indian History Congress.

³ This was first pointed out by Dr. D. C. Sircar in his note on the present plates published in the *Ind. Hist. Quart.*, Vol. XVI, pp. 182 ff. The repetition may, however, be attributed to the carelessness of the drafter of the record. An analogous instance is furnished by the Dēvagiri plates of the Kadamba *Yuvarāja* Dēvavarman, which apply the epithet *Dharmamahārāja* twice to his father Krishṇavarman, see *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. VII, pp. 33-34.

⁴ See, e. g., the Pattan plates of Pravarasēna II, above, Vol. XXIII, p. 85. The list is the same except that the Bāsim plates mention *Jyōtishthōma* in place of *Ukthya*, *Shōḷasīn* and *Atiribha*.

pautrasya in l. 3 and *śrī-Sarvasēna-putrasya* in l. 4 are to be taken as *śrī-Pravarasēnasya pautrasya* and *śrī-Sarvasēnasya putrasya*, so that the preceding adjectival expressions in the genitive case including the epithet *Dharmamahārājasya* would agree with *śrī-Pravarasēnasya* and *śrī-Sarvasēnasya* respectively. According to this construction, all the three kings, Pravarasēna Sarvasēna and Vindhyaśakti, would receive the epithet *Dharmamahārāja* and there would thus be no tautology. Besides, the expression *Agnishṭōm-āptōryāma.....chatur-śvamedha-yājinaḥ* and *Samrāja[h*]* would now qualify *śrī-Pravarasēnasya*, showing that it was he, and not Vindhyaśakti, who performed these sacrifices and assumed the title of *Samrāj*. This is quite in accordance with the statement in other Vākāṭaka grants. Pravarasēna, who heads the genealogical list in the present plates, would thus be Pravarasēna I who, according to the Purāṇas, was the son of Vindhyaśakti. The Vākāṭaka king who granted the present plates should therefore be called Vindhyaśakti II. He thus becomes the great-grandson of Vindhyaśakti I. The genealogy in the present plates would thus be as follows—



This would therefore be a different branch of the Vākāṭaka family ; for, according to the genealogy in several inscriptions of Pravarasēna II and Prithivishēna II, Pravarasēna I was succeeded by his grandson Rudrasēna I, the son of Gautamiputra who probably did not come to the throne¹.

Let us next consider if we could adduce any other evidence to prove the existence of this hitherto unknown branch of the Vākāṭaka family.

In this connection we would draw attention to the stone inscription in cave No. XVI at Ajaṇṭā. This inscription has been edited thrice before, first by Dr. Bhau Daji with 'a tolerably accurate facsimile' in the *Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. VII, pp. 53-74, then by Pandit Bhagwanlal Indraji in the *Inscriptions from the Cave Temples of Western India*, pp. 69-73 and finally by Dr. Bühler in the *Archæological Survey of Western India*, Vol. IV, pp. 124-28. Dr. Bühler's transcript is accompanied by a lithograph of the record from a facsimile prepared by Pandit Bhagwanlal². This lithograph has been somewhat worked up by hand. As it is, it seems to show that the inscribed stone is quite smooth where the inscription is well preserved, but those who have visited Ajaṇṭā and seen the inscription *in situ* know that it is just the reverse. This lithograph must therefore be used with caution and important readings of it must be verified from mechanical copies of the record. As we were suspicious about certain readings in the transcripts of Bhagwanlal and Bühler, we requested the Government Epigraphist for India to lend us a fresh estampage of the inscription. We are grateful to him for complying with our request and sending us an excellent estampage³.

The Ajaṇṭā inscription is very much worn especially in the middle and on the left hand side, but Bhagwanlal has, with his wonted skill, transcribed all that could be deciphered in his days. We give below his transcript of the first nine lines of the record for ready reference.

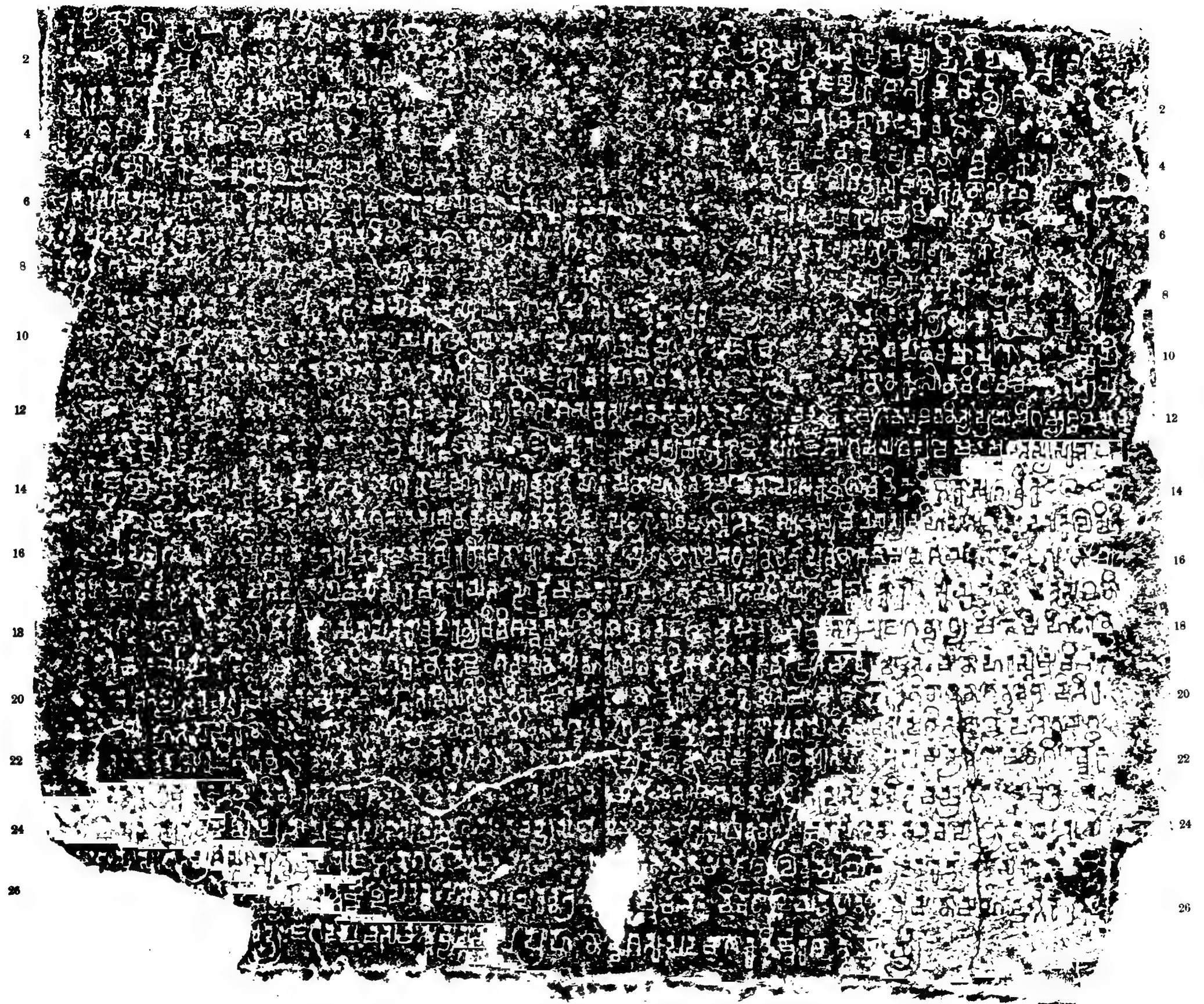
¹ Gautamiputra does not seem to have ascended the throne because in later Vākāṭaka grants the epithet *Vākātakānām Mahārājasya* which invariably precedes the names of ruling kings is not prefixed to his name. See above, Vol. XXII, p. 175, n. 1.

See *A. S. W. I.*, Vol. IV, Plate LVII.

² The estampage is reproduced here with the kind permission of Mr. G. Yazdani, M.A., O.B.E., Director of Archaeology, Hyderabad State.



VAKATAKA INSCRIPTION IN CAVE NO. XVI AT AJANTA.



- [१] उदीर्णलोकत्रयदीपवह्निर्वापनो^१
 प्रणम्य पूर्वां प्रवक्ष्ये क्षितिपानुपूर्वीम् [॥] [॥]
- [२] महाविमर्देभ्यश्चक्षुःशक्तिः क्रुद्धस्मुरैरप्यनिवार्य[वीर्यः] [१]
 रणदानशक्तिः द्विजप्रकाशो भुवि विन्ध्यशक्तिः [॥] [॥]
- [३] पुरन्दरोपेन्द्रसमप्रभावः स्वबाहुवीर्यार्जितस[र्वलोकः] [१]
 [यशो]शुकानां बभूव वाकाटकवंशकेतुः [॥] [॥]
- [४] रणे[षु] हर्ष्युत्थितरणजालसञ्छादितार्क [१]
 नरातीक्ष्णत्वा[भि]वादप्रवणाञ्चकार^२ [॥] [॥]
- [५] [विनि]र्जितारि[स्मर]राजकार्यश्चकार पुण्येषु परं प्रय[त्नं] [१]
 नरेन्द्रमौलिविन्ध्यस्तमणिकिरणलीढक्रमाम्बुजः
- [६] प्रवरसेनस्तस्य पुत्रोभूद्विकसन्नवेन्दोर्वरेक्षणा^३रविमयूख
 [रुद्र ? सेनः] प्रवरसेनस्य जितसर्वसेनस्सुतोभवत्
- [७] पार्थिवेन्द्रस्य [प्रशशास] धर्मेण मिदिनीम् कुन्तलेन्द्रवि
 प्रवरसेनस्य पुत्रोभूत्परोर्जितोदारशासनप्रवर[ः] [१]
- [८] [॥] तस्यात्मजकामत
 [१] मवाप्य राज्यमष्टाब्दकी यप्रशशास
 सम्यक् [॥]
- [९] तस्यात्मजीभून्नरदेव भुवि देवसेन[ः] यस्योपभोगैर्क्षलितैर्विपाव-
 नैर्नृदेवराजस्य भूः [॥] पुण्यानुभावात्क्षितिपस्य

In his introduction to this inscription Bhagwanlal gave the following list of Vākāṭaka princes mentioned in it :—

- 1 Vindhyaśakti.
- 2 Pravarasēna.
- 3 (Rudra ?)sēna.
- 4
- 5 Dēvasēna.
- 6 Harishēna.

¹ The reading appears to be *vahni-nirvāpaṇō*.

² The reading is *pravaṇāmś=chakāra* as noted by Bühler.

³ Bühler read [ari-] before *narēndra-* in l. 5 and *-ēndīvar-ēkṣhaṇaḥ* in l. 6. See also, above, Vol VIII, p. 27.

He further remarked,¹ 'From the broken state of the inscription it is not clear whether Pravarasēna was a son of Vindhyaśakti, or, as is probable, of a member of the Vindhyaśakti family.² Of his son only -sēna is legible, preceded by a faintly traceable form like *dra*, so that the name may have been Bhadrasēna, Chandrasēna, Indrasēna, Rudrasēna, etc.' Bhagwanlal seems to have adopted the reading Rudrasēna, because this name occurs soon after that of Pravarasēna I³ in the Siwani and Chammak plates of the Vākāṭaka Pravarasēna II, which had been discovered before. This list was next revised by Bühler in the introductory note to his transcript of the record in *A. S. W. I.*, Vol. IV, p. 128. Bühler thought that he could read, in the middle of line 7, the *aksharas pra* (or, *pri*)*thivī* which showed a name like Prithivishēṇa. As Rudrasēna was mentioned in the immediately preceding line he identified this prince with Prithivishēṇa, the son of Rudrasēna I, mentioned in the Vākāṭaka land-grants. Again, he proposed to read further on in the same line, *Pravarasē[nas=ta]sya putrō=bhūt*... in place of Bhagwanlal's *Pravarasēnasya putrō=bhūt*, and this Pravarasēna he identified with Pravarasēna II. According to him therefore the Vākāṭaka princes mentioned in the Ajaṇṭā inscription were as follows :—

Vindhyaśakti,

|
(son?)

Pravarasēna I,

|
(son)

(Ru)drasēna I,

|
(son)

Prithivishēṇa,

|
(son)

Pravarasēna II,

|
(son)

.....

|
(son)

Dēvasēna,

|
(son)

Harishēṇa.

He also pointed out that the name of one prince, Rudrasēna II was omitted after Prithivishēṇa.

¹ Burgess and Indraji—*Inscriptions in the Cave-Temples of Western India*, *A. S. W. I.*, p. 69.

² Scholars are now agreed that this Pravarasēna was the son of Vindhyaśakti himself; for, he is evidently identical with Pravira mentioned in the *Vāyu* and *Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇas* as the son of Vindhyaśakti. See Pargiter, *Dynasties of the Kālī Age*, p. 50.

³ He was Pravarasēna's grandson.

From the land-grants of Pravarasēna II and Prithivishēṇa II we get the following genealogy :—

Pravarasēna I,
|
(son)
(Gautamīputra),
|
(son)
Rudrasēna I,
|
(son)
Prithivishēṇa I,
|
(son)
Rudrasēna II,
|
(son)
Pravarasēna II,
|
(son)
Narēndrasēna,
|
(son)
Prithivishēṇa II.

If we compare this list with Bühler's revised genealogy of Vākāṭaka princes mentioned in the Ajaṇṭā inscription, two discrepancies in the latter at once strike us—(i) Rudrasēna I was not the son of Pravarasēna I, but was his grandson and (ii) Pravarasēna II was not the son of Prithivishēṇa I, but was his grandson. Fortunately, the Ajaṇṭā inscription is quite clear in the portions which describe these relationships, so that there is not the least doubt about the readings. In the former case the inscription reads [*Rudra?*]sēnaḥ *Pravarasēnasya jīta-sarva-sēnas=sutō=bhavat* in line 6 and in the latter case, [*Prithivi ?*]shēnaḥ *Pravarasēnas=tasya putrō=bhūt=pravar-ōrjīt-ōdāra-śāsana-pravaraḥ*. We must therefore suppose either that the poet committed mistakes in describing these relationships or that some of the readings of the royal names given by Bhagwanlal and Bühler are incorrect. The former alternative does not appear likely ; for the inscription was composed under the direction of the Vākāṭaka king Harishēṇa's minister and is on the whole very correctly written. It is, however, very much abraded in the portion where the names of Rudrasēna and Prithivishēṇa are supposed to occur and consequently mistakes in reading are not unlikely. On referring to the excellent estampage supplied by the Government Epigraphist we found that the reading *Rudrasēnaḥ* was extremely doubtful. Both Bhagwanlal and Bühler also were not certain about it, but Bhagwanlal thought that he saw a faintly traceable form like *dra*. He proposed to read *Rudrasēnaḥ* evidently because Vākāṭaka land-grants mention a Rudrasēna, soon after Pravarasēna I. This reading was also adopted by Bühler. Referring to the lithograph used by both of them, we find that the upper member of the ligature is quite uncertain, but there appears a loop below it. This has evidently been taken to be the subscript *r* of *dra*. There are several instances of the subscript *r* in this lithograph, but in none of them is it denoted by a loop ; it is always denoted by a hook open to the left. The estampage of the Government Epigraphist does not clearly show even this loop. The preceding *akshara ru* is of course completely gone as admitted by both Bhagwanlal and Bühler. The reading *Rudrasēnaḥ* is, therefore, to say the least, extremely doubtful.

Let us see if we could restore this royal name. The extant portion of this verse shows that the prince whose name is partially lost was a son of Pravarasēna who has now been identified by all scholars with Pravarasēna I. The Bāsim plates suggest that he might be Sarvasēna and the reading *Sarvasēnaḥ* would suit the metre as well as *Rudrasēnaḥ*. The latter part of the verse in l. 6 would therefore read *Sarvasēnaḥ Pravarasēnasya jīta-sarva-sēnaḥ-satō=bhaval*. The resulting *yamaka* makes this reading quite plausible. The poet who composed this Ajaṇṭā inscription was fond of using *yamakas* based on proper names¹ as will be seen from the following lines :—

2 अभिवृद्धशक्तिः दानशक्तिः विन्ध्यशक्तिः ॥

7 प्रवरसेनस्तस्य पुत्रोभूत्प्रवरोर्जितोदारशासनप्रवरः ।

10-11 हस्तिभोजः दिग्गन्धहस्तिप्रतिमो बभूव ।

14 हरिषेणी हरिविक्रमप्रतापः ।

The description *jīta-sarva-sēnaḥ* of this prince was evidently suggested by his name Sarvasēna². The Bāsim plates have now shown that Sarvasēna was a son of Pravarasēna.³ This Pravarasēna, with whom the genealogy in the Bāsim plates begins, must therefore, be identified with Pravarasēna I.

In the middle of the next line (7) Bühler read the *aksharas pra* (or, *pri*) *thivī* and thought that they formed part of the royal name *Prithivishēna*. This prince he identified with Prithivishēna I. Referring to the lithograph used by him, we find that the *akshara* which he read as *thi* has a tapering top and is open below. It cannot therefore be read as *thi*, for, in other places in this inscription, *th* has invariably a round top and is closed at the bottom. See, for instance, *prathitō* in line 15, *prathita-guṇ-ōpabhōga* in line 21, etc. The *akshara* appears to be *śrī* of which the lower curve representing *r* is indistinct in that lithograph.⁴ The following *akshara* is clearly *vim*. In the new estampage we find clear traces of *dhyā* following *vim*. Especially the elongated curve representing subscript *y* is unmistakable. The two following *aksharas* are almost certainly *sēnaḥ*.⁵ The name thus appears to be *śrī-Vindhyasēnaḥ*. This prince we identify with Vindhyasakti of the Bāsim plates.

As regards the remaining names we are in complete agreement with Bühler. They are Pravarasēna, Dēvasēna⁶ and Harishēna. Between Pravarasēna and Dēvasēna we have lost the name of a prince who, according to the inscription, came to the throne when he was a boy only eight years old. I do not, however, agree with Bühler's view that this Pravarasēna was

¹ For another instance of the use of *yamakas* based on personal names, see the Nidhanpur plates of Bhāskaravarman, above, Vol. XII, pp. 66 ff.

² Otherwise, there is no special point in saying that he conquered all armies. One would rather expect an expression like *jīta-sarva-lōkaḥ* or *jīta-sarva-rājaḥ*.

³ It is possible to read *Sarvasēnaḥ* from the traces in the new estampage, but we prefer to rely for the reading *Sarvasēnaḥ* on the wording of the description in l. 6.

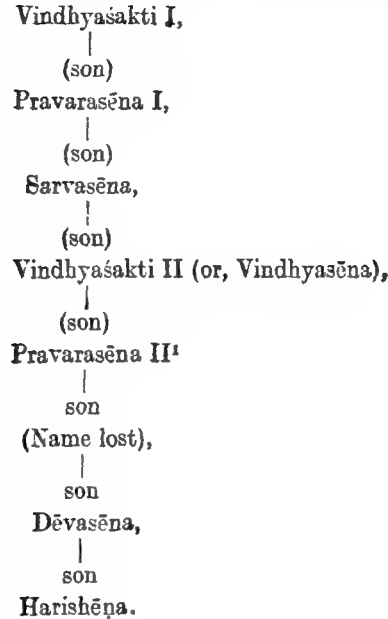
⁴ Traces of the subscript *r* can be clearly seen in the new estampage.

⁵ These *aksharas* were doubtfully read as *shēnaḥ* by Bühler.

⁶ I do not agree with Jayaswal's view (*History of India*, etc., pp. 75 & 79) that Dēvasēna abdicated in favour of his son Harishēna. The description in l. 13 is intended to glorify Hastibhōja, to whom Dēvasēna consigned the cares of government. Similar statements occur in other records, see, e.g., above, Vol. XXV, p. 14 (line 17 of the text). Harishēna is introduced for the first time in the next verse of that inscription.

Pravarasēna II, of whom several land-grants have come down to us. The names Vindhyaśēna (or, Vindhyaśakti) and Sarvasēna of his father and grandfather respectively show that he was different from Pravarasēna II, the son of Rudrasēna II and grandson of Prithivishēna I.

The genealogy of this branch of the Vākāṭaka family can be stated as follows :—



We know from the *Purāṇas* that Pravarasēna I had four sons who became kings. They apparently divided his extensive kingdom among themselves after his death. Gautamīputra who was probably his eldest son, seems to have predeceased him. Therefore, Rudrasēna I, the son of Gautamīputra, succeeded Pravarasēna I. An inscription of this king has been discovered at Deotek in the Chāndā District of the Central Provinces,² not very far from Paunī where an ancient record of a king of the Bhāra clan (the later Bhāraśivas) has been found.³ He may, therefore, have acquired by inheritance the territory of the Bhāraśivas also. The copper-plates of his great-grandson Pravarasēna II record gifts of land at Chammak near Ellichpur⁴ in the Amraoti District, Chandrapura⁵ (modern Chāndur) in the Wardhā District, Paṭṭan⁶ in the Betul District, Tirōḍī⁷ in the Bālāghāt District and Brahmapūraka⁸ (modern Bāhmni) in the Bhaṇḍārā District. Pravarasēna II was therefore ruling over the northern parts of modern Berār and the territory comprised in the Siwani, Betul, Bālāghāt, Nāgpur, Bhaṇḍārā, Wardhā and Chāndā Districts of the Central Provinces. We do not know how much of this territory was acquired by Pravarasēna II or his immediate ancestors. But since the inscriptions of no other branch of the Vākāṭaka family have been found in these districts, we may suppose that the whole of the aforementioned territory was under the rule of Rudrasēna I also. His capital was probably Nandivardhana which is mentioned as the place of issue in the earliest

¹ In a combined genealogy of the two branches the son of Rudrasēna II may be called Pravarasēna III.

² *Proceedings and Transactions of the Eighth Oriental Conference, Mysore*, pp. 613 ff.

³ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 11 ff.

⁴ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, pp. 235 ff.

⁵ Above, Vol. III, pp. 258 ff. Hiralal's *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar* (second ed.), p. 93.

⁶ Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 81 ff.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Vol. XXII, pp. 167 ff.

⁸ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, pp. 234 ff. and above, Vol. XXII, p. 211, n. 8.

copper-plate grant of this branch, viz., the Poona plates of Prabhāvatiguptā¹ and the Bēlorā plates of her son Pravarasēna II.² Later on Pravarasēna II founded Pravaraपुरा and shifted his seat of government there.

Prithivishēṇa II is the last known member of this branch. Scholars have long been in doubt about the relation of this Prithivishēṇa with Dēvasēna and Harishēṇa. S. Krishnasvami Aiyangar thought that the Vākāṭaka family branched forth after Pravarasēna II, Narēndrasēna, the father of Prithivishēṇa II, being a brother of the Vākāṭaka prince whose name is lost in the Ajaṇṭā inscription.³ Jayaswal, on the other hand, identified Narēndrasēna with this latter prince.⁴ The foregoing discussion will make it plain that the two branches had separated long before, i.e., after the reign of Pravarasēna I and that Dēvasēna and Harishēṇa belonged to a different line from that of Narēndrasēna and Prithivishēṇa II.

Only five inscriptions of this second branch of the Vākāṭaka family have been discovered so far, viz., the present Bāsim plates of Vindhyaśakti II, a fragmentary copper-plate inscription of Dēvasēna⁵ and three stone inscriptions of the reign of Harishēṇa, discovered at or near Ajaṇṭā,—one of his feudatory in Cave No. XVII⁶ and two of his minister Varāhadēva in cave No. XVI⁷ and the Ghaṭōtkacha cave⁸ at Gulwādā, about 11 miles west of Ajaṇṭā. The provenance of these inscriptions shows that this branch ruled over southern Berār and the northern parts of the Nizām's Dominions. Both the known copper-plate inscriptions of this branch have been issued from Vatsagulma⁹ which seems to have continued to be the seat of their government to the last.

According to the genealogy of the Vatsagulma branch fixed above, Vindhyaśakti II and his son Pravarasēna II were the contemporaries of Prithivishēṇa I and his son Rudrasēna II of the other branch. From the grants of Prabhāvatiguptā we know that Rudrasēna II was the son-in-law of Chandragupta II (A. D. 380-413). He may therefore have come to the throne in *circa* A. D. 400¹⁰. This is also the approximate date of the close of Vindhyaśakti II's reign. As we have seen, Vindhyaśakti II was the great-grandson of Vindhyaśakti I. In view of the abnormally long reigns assigned in the *Purāṇas* to Vindhyaśakti I and Pravarasēna I¹¹ and the date, the thirty-seventh regnal year, of the present plates of Vindhyaśakti II, we shall not be wrong if we assign 150 years to the four reigns of Vindhyaśakti I, Pravarasēna I, Sarvasēna and Vindhyaśakti II. Vindhyaśakti I, the founder of the dynasty, seems, therefore, to have risen to power about A. D. 250. Vindhyaśakti II was followed by four kings whose reigns must have

¹ Above, Vol XV, pp. 39 ff.

² *Ibid.*, Vol., XXIV, pp. 260 ff.

³ *Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute*, Vol. V, p. 35.

⁴ Jayaswal, *History of India, 150-350 A. D.*, p. 76.

⁵ *New Indian Antiquary*, Vol. II, pp. 177 ff.

⁶ *A. S. W. I.*, Vol. IV, pp. 128 ff.

⁷ *Loc. cit.*, pp. 122 ff.

⁸ *Loc. cit.*, pp. 138 ff. The name of Varāhadēva is lost in this inscription, but line 16 refers to the sons, apparently of Hastibhōja, the minister of the Vākāṭaka king Dēvasēna, mentioned in l. 10, and Varāhadēva was probably one of them.

⁹ This place is identical with Bāsim, see above, p. 140.

¹⁰ Vincent Smith places the marriage of Rudrasēna II with Prabhāvatiguptā at the time of Chandragupta II's invasion against the Śaka satraps of Gujārāt and Surāshṭra 'somewhere about A. D. 395'. *J. R. A. S.* for 1914, pp. 325 ff.

¹¹ According to the *Purāṇas* Vindhyaśakti ruled (or, perhaps lived) for 96 years and Pravarasēna I for 60 years.

covered about a century. We may therefore place Harishūṇa, the last of them, about A. D. 475-500.

The present grant is thus the earliest copper-plate grant of the Vākāṭakas. In its Prākṛit portion it has several expressions which in their Sanskrit form were already known from the grants of Prabhāvatiguptā and Pravarasēna II. It is noteworthy that most of them find mention in the Mayidavolu and Hirahadagalli grants of the Pallava Śivaskandavarman as will be seen from the following table¹ :—

No.	Expression in the Bāsim plates.	No.	Corresponding expression in the Hirahadagalli or Mayidavolu plates ² .
1	āpuṇo vijaya-vejayike āyu-bala-vaddhanike	1	appaṇa kula-gottasa dham-āyu-bala-yaso-vadha-nike vijayavejayike (H.)
2	a-rattha-samvinayika	2	a-rattha-samvinayikam (H.)
3	a-lavaṇa-keṇṇa-kkhanaka	3	a-loṇa-gula-chchhobham (H.)
4	a-puppha-kkhira-ggahaṇa	4	a-dūḍha-dadhi-gahaṇam (H.)
5	a-parampara-go-balivardda	5	a-pārampara-balivadda-gahaṇam (H.)
6	a-chāra-siddhika a-chamm-angālika	6	a-taṇa-kattha-gahaṇam (H.)
7	a-bhaḍa-ppāvesa	7	a-bhaḍa-papesam (M.)
8	a-khaṭṭā-chollaka-veṇesika	8	a-kara-yollaka-vinesi-khaṭṭā-vāsam (H.)
9	sāvva-jāti-parihāra-parihitam	9	sava-parihārehi parihārito (M.)

The close similarity in many of these expressions is very striking. It shows that the drafter of the Vākāṭaka grant has borrowed the expressions from some earlier Pallava grant. Besides these, we may notice the following points of similarity between the records of the Vākāṭakas and the Pallavas : (1) Vākāṭaka grants, when complete, begin with *drisṭam* which corresponds to *dīḥam* seen on the outer side of the first plate of both the Mayidavolu and Hirahadagalli grants. (2) The Riddhapur plates of Prabhāvatiguptā³ begin like the Pallava Sanskrit grants with the words *Jitam Bhagavatā*. (3) A number of Vedic sacrifices are enumerated in the beginning of both the Vākāṭaka and early Pallava grants. (4) The words *ājñā svayam* at the end of the Tirōḍi plates recall similar expressions *sayam=āṇatan* and *ānati saya tti dattā* at the close of the Hirahadagalli and Mayidavolu plates respectively.

These similarities are surely not accidental. As the rule of the Pallavas never extended to the Central Provinces and Berār, we cannot explain them as due to the employment, by the Vākāṭakas, of the clerks who were previously in the Secretariat of the Pallavas. The striking similarities in several expressions pointed out above clearly presuppose some connection of the Vākāṭakas with the Pallavas and this is corroborated by the discovery of an inscription of a Vākāṭaka householder on a pillar at Amarāvati in the Āndhra country.⁴ That the rule of the

¹ The similarities between the Sanskrit expressions in the Vākāṭaka grants and the Prākṛit grants of the Pallavas have been noticed before. See above, Vol. XXIV, p. 14, n. 1, and *Nagpur University Journal*, No. 3, pp. 22 ff.

² The expressions taken from the Hirahadagalli plates (above, Vol. I, pp. 5 ff.) are shown as (H) and those from the Mayidavolu plates (above, Vol. VI, pp. 86 ff.) as (M).

³ *J. A. S. B.*, (N. S.), Vol. XX, p. 58.

⁴ Above, Vol. XV, p. 267.

Pallavas extended to the Āndhra country in the north is well known ; for the Mayidavolu plates record the grant of a village in the *Āndhāpatha* (*Āndhra-patha*) to two Brāhmaṇas. Mere discovery of a pilgrim record at a holy place is, of course, no clear evidence that the pilgrim was a resident of that or even of a neighbouring country, but in conjunction with close similarity in a number of technical expressions such as is noticed nowhere else,¹ it may be taken to point to some sort of connection between the two royal houses. **We shall not therefore be wrong in supposing that the Vākātakas had their original home in the South.**

This conclusion is again corroborated by the findspots of Vākātaka inscriptions. The earliest known inscription of the Vākātakas has been discovered at Deotek in the Chāndā District. It records the construction of a *dharmasthāna* by Rudrasēna who, on the evidence of palæography, has been identified with Rudrasēna I.² Besides the present plates, several copper-plate inscriptions of Pravarasēna II and Prithivishēṇa II have been discovered in different parts of the Central Provinces and Berār. The only records connected with the Vākātaka dynasty which have been discovered in the regions to the north of the Narmadā are the Nachnā³ and Ganj⁴ inscriptions of Vyāghradēva, a feudatory of the Vākātaka king Prithivishēṇa. As Prof. Dubreuil and Rao Bahadur Dikshit have shown, he must be identified with Prithivishēṇa II on the evidence of palæography. Vyāghradēva is, therefore, probably identical with the Uchchakalpa prince Vyāghra who, we know, was ruling over the adjoining territory.⁵ The Bālāghāt plates of Prithivishēṇa II state that the ruler of Mālwa was a feudatory of his father Narēndrasēna and it is not unlikely that Prithivishēṇa's own authority was recognized in Central India towards the close of the fifth century A. D. The Nachnā and Ganj inscriptions, therefore, do not in any way go against the foregoing conclusion about the original home of the Vākātakas.

The late Dr. Jayaswal recently advanced the theory that the Vākātakas originally hailed from Bāgāt in the Orchā State.⁶ In support of his view he has tried to show that three coins discovered at Kosam and another place in North India were issued by Pravarasēna I, Rudrasēna I and Prithivishēṇa I.⁷ The first two, according to him, bear the dates 76 and 100 respectively which he refers to the era of A. D. 248. This era, though called by the name of the Chēdi or Kalashuri era, was, according to Jayaswal, really started by the Vākātakas. But Jayaswal's readings of the legends and figures on the coins are extremely doubtful.⁸ Besides, his theory that the Chēdi era was really founded by the Vākātakas is disproved by the fact that the Vākātakas themselves never used it, but dated all their records in regnal years. According to the *Purāṇas* Vindhyasakti's son Pravira, who has been rightly identified with Pravarasēna I, ruled at two places Purikā and Chanakā.⁹ Jayaswal's identification of Chanakā with Nachnā

¹ Two of these expressions occur in some inscriptions (e.g., Nāsik, inscriptions Nos. 3 and 4) of the Sātavāhanas from which the Pallavas had evidently taken them. That the Āndhra country had been ruled by the Sātavāhanas before it came under the rule of the Pallavas is well known.

² *Proceedings and Transactions of the Eighth Oriental Conference*, pp. 613 ff.

³ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, pp. 233 ff.

⁴ Above, Vol. XVII, pp. 12 ff.

⁵ *Ibid.* Vol. XXIII, pp. 171 ff.

⁶ *History of India, 150-350 A. D.*, p. 67.

⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 108 ff.

⁸ Dr. A. S. Altekar has shown that the alleged coin of Rudrasēna has no traces of the letters *Rudra*, but a symbol which looks like a trident or *triratna*. *J. R. A. S. B.*, Vol. II, *Num. Suppl.* No. XLVI, p. 29.

⁹ We adopt the reading suggested by Jayaswal, *Bhōkshyanti cha samāḥ śhaśhīm Purikāḥ Chanakāḥ cha vai*. See *History of India*, etc., p. 16.

cannot be accepted in the absence of corroborative proof. As for Purikā, it was situated according to the *Harivaṃśa*¹ at the foot of the Rikshavat (modern Sātpurā) mountain and, therefore, in the Central Provinces or Berār. Vindhyaśakti, the first ancestor of the Vākātakas, may have been so called because he extended his power to the foot of the Vindhya mountain in the north. There is thus no valid argument against our view that the Vākātakas had their original home in the South.²

TEXT.³

First Plate.

- 1 सिद्धम्⁴ [i*] दृष्टम् [i*] वत्सगुल्माद्धर्ममहाराजस्या⁵ग्निष्टीमाप्तीर्थामवाजपेयज्योति-
- 2 ष्ठीमहहस्यतिसवसाद्यस्क(स्क)चतुरश्वमेधयाजिनस्सम्वाज(जो) व-
- 3 णिवृद्ध⁶सगोचस्य हारितीपुत्रस्य श्रीप्रवरसेनपौत्रस्य⁷
- 4 धर्ममहाराजस्य श्रीसर्वसेनपुत्रस्य⁸ धर्ममहाराजस्य
- 5 ⁹वाकाटकानां ।¹⁰ त्रि(श्री)विश्वयशस्तेर्वचनात् [i*] नान्दीकडस ¹¹उत्तरमगे

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 6 ताकालक्खीपकाग्भासे आकासपद्देसु अम्हसन्तका साव्वायीगणि-
- 7 युत्ता आणत्ति¹²भडा सेसा य साच्चरन्तर(कु)लपुत्ता¹³ भाणितव्वा [i*] आह्नेहिं
- 8 ¹⁴दाणि¹⁵ आपुणी¹⁶ विजयवेजयिके आयुवलवद्धणिके¹⁷ स्वस्ति-

¹ *Viṣṇuparvan*, *adhyāya* 38, vv. 21-22.

² The *Vāyu* and *Brahmānda Purāṇas* no doubt mention Vindhyaśakti (I) and Pravira at the end of the section about the kings of Vidiśā, but that is probably because like the Āndhras they had extended their power to North India.

³ From ink-impressions. We have derived some help from Dr. D. C. Sircar's transcript of the plates which appeared in the *I. H. Q.*, Vol. XVII, pp. 112 ff. while this article was going through the press.

⁴ This word is written in the margin on a level with l. 3.

⁵ The mark denoting the length of this vowel is faint.

⁶ Other Vākāṭaka plates name this *gōtra* as *Viṣṇuriddha*. See, e.g., above, Vol. XXIII, p. 85.

⁷ Read श्रीप्रवरसेनस्य पौत्रस्य. See above, p. 142.

⁸ Read श्रीसर्वसेनस्य पुत्रस्य.

⁹ Opposite this line in the margin there is a mark for 1, denoting the number of the plate.

¹⁰ This mark of punctuation is superfluous.

¹¹ The engraver first incised *dā* which he afterwards altered to *u*.

¹² *Anatti* (Sanskrit, *Ājñapti*) is the same as *Dūtaka* who was to see to the execution of the royal order.

¹³ Compare *ājñā-saṅghāri-kulaputr-ādhipatib* in the Sanskrit grants of the Vākātakas. See, e.g., above, Vol. XXII, p. 172.

¹⁴ In the margin on the left there is a sign for 2, denoting the number of this plate.

¹⁵ Hēmachandra (VIII, 1, 29; IV, 277) gives both *dāni* and *dānim* in the Śaurasēṇī. *Dāni* occurs in the Hiraṇyagallī plates also (above, Vol. I, p. 5).

¹⁶ Prakṛit grammarians give *appanō* as the correct form in the Mahārāṣṭrī, see Vararuchi, v. 46 (Rāmabha's commentary); Hēmachandra VIII, 3, 56.

¹⁷ Hultzsch takes similar expressions which occur in lines 5-6 of the Mayidavolu plates as Māgadhi nominatives. We would prefer to take them as locative singular forms, denoting purpose. In the Hiraṇyagallī and British Museum plates, the gerund *kātūna* or *kātūnam* follows -*vaddhaniyam* or *vaddhaniye*.

- 9 शान्तिवाचने¹ इहामुत्तिके धाम्मत्थाणे एत्थङ्गामे आधिव्वणिकं चर-
 10 णस्स आइक ।³ भालन्दायणसगोत्तेसिं जिवुज्जेसिं कपिञ्चल-

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 11 सगोत्तेसिं⁴ । रुहज्जेसि । आविष्ठायाणं सगोत्तेसि । भाट्टिदेवज्जेसि
 12 कोसि[क]सगोत्तेसि । देअज्जेसि । कोसिकसगोत्तेसिं । वेणहुज्जेसि ।
 13 कोसी(सि)कसगोत्तेसि । विधिज्जेसि । पैप्पलादिसगोत्तेसि । पितु-
 14 जेसि भालन्दायणसगोत्तेसि चान्दजेसि कोसिकसगोत्ते(त्ति)सि जेदुजे-
 15 सि । पदे(टे ?)हि दोहि भालन्दायणसगोत्तेसि बुद्धजेसि कोसिकसगोत्तेसि ।

Third Plate ; First Side.

- 16 भाट्टिलज्जेसि । कोसिकसगोत्तेसि । सिवज्जेसि । कोसिकसगोत्तेसि
 17 हरिणज्जेसि एताणं⁶ बान्हेणाण भागा तिण्णा⁷ ३ कोसिकसगोत्तेसि
 18 ⁸रेवतिजेसि । भागो १ चउत्थोत्ति आचन्दादिच्चलिकी अपुब्बद-
 19 त्तोय दत्तो । पुव्वरायाणमते य से⁹ चातुब्बेज्जमाममज्जाता¹⁰ परिहारे वित-
 20 राम ।¹¹ तं जथा अरदुसंविणयिक । अलवणकेण¹² क्खनक । अहिरणधाण-

Third Plate ; Second Side.

- 21 पणययदेय । अपुप्फक्खिरमाहण¹³ । अपरम्परगोबलिवहं [।]

¹ Such an expression does not occur in the Sanskrit charters of the Vākātakas.

² The softening of *th* into *dh* is characteristic of the Śaurasēnī. See also *rakkhadha*, *rakkhāpedha*, *pariharadha* and *pariharāpedha* in ll. 25—26 below.

³ The signs of punctuation in lines 10—18 are superfluous.

⁴ The *anuvāra* on *si* is very faint, but it is there.

⁵ The *gōtra* Śrāviṣṭha or Śrāviṣṭhāyana is not mentioned in the *Gōtrapravarānibandhakadamba*, but the Sangoli grant of the Kadamba king Harivarman (above, Vol. XIV, p. 167) names some Brāhmaṇas of the Śrāviṣṭha *gōtra* and it is noteworthy that like the donees of the present grant, they all belonged to the Atharva-vēda.

⁶ The Hirahadagalli plates (l. 27) have *etesi bamhaṇāṇam*.

⁷ The correct form is *tiṇṇi* in all genders. See Vararuchi, IV, 56.

⁸ In the margin on the left, on a level with this line, there is a sign for 3, denoting the number of this plate.

⁹ This is genitive singular of *tad*, *ibid.*, VI, 11.

¹⁰ This form of the word (with the hardening of *d* into *t*) occurs in line 45 of the Hirahadagalli plates. According to Prākṛit grammarians this is a characteristic of the Paisāchi dialect.

¹¹ The marks of punctuation in lines 20—27 are superfluous.

¹² This seems to correspond to *krēṇi* in the Sanskrit charters of the Vākātakas. See l. 32 of the Paṭṭan plates, above, Vol. XXIII, p. 87.

¹³ The curve on *ṇa* seems to have been cancelled.

BASIM PLATES OF VAKATAKA VINDHYASAKTI II.

i.

1
2
3
4

1 2

4

ii,a.

6
8
10

6 8 10

ii,b.

12
14

12 14

iii, a.

16 16
18 18
20 20

iii, b.

22 22
24 24

iv.

26 26
28 28
30 30

- 22 अचारसिद्धिक । अच'मङ्गलिक । अभडप्पावेस अखट्टाचोन्नकवेणे-
 23 सिक । अकरद । अवह । सणिधि । सोपणिधि । सकुतुप्पन्त² ।
 24 समच्चमहाकरण । साव्वजातिपरिहारपरिहितच्च [1*] जतो उपरिलि-
 25 खित । शासण³ चादम्प(स्य ?)माण⁴ करेत्ता रक्खध रक्खापेध य परिहरध

Fourth Plate.

- 26 परिहरापेध य [1*] जो वु आवाधं करेज्ज कतव्व अनुमण्णति⁵
 27 तिस्स⁶ एतेहि । उपरिलिखितेहि । ब्राम्हणेहि । परिकुपिते⁷ स[द]ण्ड-
 28 ⁸निग्रह करेज्जामेत्ति [1*] साव्वच्छरं ३० ७ हेमन्ता(न्त)पक्खं पढमं
 29 [दि]व[स] ४ समुपासत्थि⁹ लिखितमिमं शास[नं] सेणापतिणा
 30 वण्डुण¹⁰ इति ॥ सिद्धिरस्तु ॥ — ॥¹¹

TRANSLATION.

(Ll. 1—5) Success! Seen¹². From Vatsagulma¹³— By the order of the *Dharmamahārāja*,¹⁴ the illustrious **Vindhyasakti** (II) of the **Vākātakas**, (*who is*) the son of the *Dharmamahārāja*, the illustrious **Sarvasēna** (*and*) grandson of the *Dharmamahārāja*,¹⁵ the illustrious

¹ The engraver at first incised *da* which he later changed to *cha*.

² This corresponds to *sa-kṣipt-ōpakṣipta* in the Sanskrit charters of the Vākātakas. See above Vol. XXII, p. 173 and Vol. XXIII, p. 87.

³ The *anuvāra* on *na* is very faint in the impression.

⁴ [The reading seems to be *śāsana-vādam=pamānam karettā*, Skt. *śāsana-vādam pramānam kṛtvā*.—B. C. C.]

⁵ One letter after *ma* has been cancelled.

⁶ Read *tassa*.

⁷ Read *parikupitehi veditassa*. Compare Vol. XXII, p. 173 and Vol. XXIII, p. 87.

⁸ In the margin on the left, almost on a level with this line, there is a symbol for 4, denoting the number of the plate.

⁹ The last three *aksharas* of this word are incised over others which have been cancelled.

¹⁰ Read *Vaṇḍuṇā*.

¹¹ There is an ornamental symbol between these two sets of *dandas*.

¹² That is, this engraved charter has been seen and approved. This word is absent in unfinished charters. See above Vol. XXII, p. 168.

¹³ That is, this charter was issued from Vatsagulma.

¹⁴ Fleet translated this epithet as 'pious' (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. VII, pp. 34 ff.) and Kielhorn as 'law-abiding' (above, Vol. III, p. 144). The intended meaning in Brahmanical records must have been 'Defender of the Vedic religion' (*dharma-rakṣakō mahārājah*). The expression *Kali-yuga-dōsh-āvasanna-dharm-ōddharana-nitya-sanna-dhā* which is applied to Pallava kings in later Sanskrit charters conveys the same idea.

¹⁵ For the construction, see the discussion above, pp. 141-2.

Pravarasēna (I), the *Samvāt* and the son (i.e., a descendant) of Hārītī,¹ (who was) of the Vṛishnivṛiddha *gōtra* and who performed Agnishtōma, Aptōryāma, Vājapēya, Jyōtishtōma, Bṛhaspatisava, Sādyaskra and four Aśvamēdhas²—

(Ll. 5—7) The *Ājñapti*³ and soldiers who are employed by us in all departments⁴ as well as other touring (officials) of noble birth in (the village) *Ākāsapadda* (which is situated) near Tākālakkhoppaka on the northern road from Nāndikaḍa should be caused to be addressed (as follows)—

(Ll. 7—19) For Our victory (in war)⁵, for the increase of (Our) life and power, for invoking blessings and peace (for Us) and for religious merit in this and the next world, We have now granted this village to (the following members of) the *Ātharvaṇika charaṇa*⁶ in this village as a new gift which is to be enjoyed as long as the moon and the sun will endure, (in the following proportion, viz.,) three parts, (in figure) 3, (of it) to these (following) Brāhmaṇas—half (a share)⁷ (being given) to Jivujja (Jivārya) of the Bhālandāyana *gōtra*, to Ruddajja (Rudrārya) of the Kapiñjala *gōtra*, to Bhāṭṭidevajja (Bharṭṭidēvārya) of the Śrāvishṭhāyana *gōtra*, to Deaja (Dēvārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*, to Veṇhujja (Viṣṇvārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*, to Vidhijja (Vidhyārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*, to Pituja (Pitryārya) of the Paippalādi *gōtra*, to Chāndaja (Chandrārya) of the Bhālandāyana *gōtra*, (and) to Jeṭṭhaja (Jyēshṭhārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*; (and) two shares (being given) to Buddhaja (Buddhārya) of the Bhālandāyana *gōtra*, to Bhāddilajja (Bhadrilārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*, to Sivajja (Śivārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*, (and) to Harinṇaja (Hiranyārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*—and the fourth part, (in figure) 1, to Revatijja (Rēvatyārya) of the Kauśika *gōtra*.

(Ll. 19—24) And we grant the following exemptions from restrictions for it (which are) incident to a village belonging to Brāhmaṇas proficient in the four Vēdas, as approved by the former kings, viz., it is to be exempt from (the entrance of) the District Police;⁸ it is to be exempt from the purchase and digging of salt; it is to be exempt from the presents⁹ of gold and grain; it does not entitle (the State) to (the royalties on) flowers and milk¹⁰, (and) to the customary cows

¹ Hārītī was a sage from whom the Kadambas and the Chālukyas also traced their descent. See, e.g., the Tālagunda inscription of Kākusthavarman, above, Vol. VIII, p. 31 and the Mahākāṭa inscription of Maṅgalēśa, *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIX, p. 16.

² This record mentions Jyōtishtōma in place of Ukthya, Shōḍaśin and Atirātra which are mentioned in other Vākātaka records among the sacrifices performed by Pravarasēna I.

³ *Ānatti* (Sanskrit, *Ājñapti*) is mentioned at the close of many records and corresponds to the *Dūtaka* who also figures in other inscriptions in the same capacity. He was entrusted with the execution of the royal order.

⁴ The usual expression in other Vākātaka records is *Sarv-ādhyakṣa-niyōga-niyuktāḥ* 'who are employed by the order of the General Superintendent.'

⁵ In other Vākātaka records *vaijayikē* qualifies *dharma-sthānē* and the whole expression means 'at our victorious place of religious worship'. The Deotek stone inscription mentions a *dharma-sthāna* of the Vākātaka king Rudrasēna I.

⁶ That is, of the Atharvavēda.

⁷ See above, p. 139, n. 9.

⁸ We follow Senart in the explanation of *a-raṭṭha-samvṇayika*, see above, Vol. VII, pp. 65-66.

⁹ *Pranaya* seems to mean a customary present or *nazarānā* offered to the king. See *pranaya-kriyā* in the Junāgaḍh inscription of Rudradāman, above, Vol. VIII, p. 44.

¹⁰ These were taxes in kind paid to the State, see above, Vol. XXII, p. 175.

and bullocks¹; it is not to provide pasture, hides and charcoal²; it is not to be entered by soldiers; it is not to provide cots, water-pots³ and servants; it is exempt from taxes; it is not to provide horses⁴; it carries with it the right to treasures and deposits, to major and minor taxes⁵ and to platforms and important documents⁶(?); and it is to be exempted with immunities of all kinds.

(Ll. 24—28) Wherefore, you protect it, cause it to be protected, exempt it and cause it to be exempted, not repressing the order written above⁷.

Whoever will cause trouble or approve of it when caused, upon him, when complained against by the aforementioned Brāhmaṇas who have taken offence, we will inflict punishment together with a fine.

(Ll. 28—30) In the year 30 (and) 7, in the first fortnight of winter, the day 4. In Our presence⁸, this order has been written by the *Sēnāpati* Vaṇhu (Vishṇu).

May there be success!

NO. 21.—KOTHURAKA GRANT OF PRAVARASENA II.

BY PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M. A., NAGPUR.

The existence of these plates was brought to my notice by my friend and former student Dr. W. S. Barlinge who had seen them when they were brought to Nagpur in March 1940. At my request Mr. W. V. Grigson, I. C. S., Joint Secretary to Government, Central Provinces and Berar, very kindly caused a search for them to be instituted. They were ultimately traced by Mr. V. H. Mujumdar, Naib Tahsildar of Hinganghāt, at the instance of Mr. B. A. Smellie, Deputy Commissioner of Wardhā. They were found in the possession of Mr. Baburao Madhavrao Athole, Mokasdar of Jāmb, a village about 7 miles north by east of

¹ The expression *a-prampara-gō-balivarḍa* in l. 21 corresponds to *a-pāraṁpara-balivarḍa-gaṇanam* of the Hīrahaḍagalli plates and *a-paramparā-baliva[ḍam]* of the Mayidavōlu plates. These latter expressions have been taken to denote 'exemption from the obligation of furnishing by turns draught cattle for the progress of royal officers'. In former times it was considered to be the duty of villagers to supply means of transport for the touring of royal officers. Sometimes, a small tax, called *prayāna-danda* was levied for the purpose. See *Rāja-sēvakānām vasati-danda-prayāna-dandau na staḥ* in the Paiṭhaṇ grant of Rāmachandra, *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, p. 318. But the use of the word *gō* in addition to *balivarḍa* in Vākātaka grants rather indicates that the village was exempted from the obligation of giving to the State the first calf—male or female—of every cow in the village. The *Manusmṛiti* (*adhyāya* VII, v. 130) also mentions a tax on cattle.

² This and similar expressions which follow exempt the donee from the obligation of supplying grass for feeding horses, hides (which were used as seats, cf. *āsana-charman* in the grants of Pravarasēna II), charcoal for cooking, cots, water-pots, servants and draught cattle, for the royal officers when they were encamped in the village during their tours.

³ *Chōllaka* is plainly identical with *chōlaka* in the Mayidavōlu plates and *yollaka* in the Hīrahaḍagalli plates. Hultzsch derives *chōllaka* from *chullakī*, a kind of water-pot. *Venesika* corresponds to *vinīsi* in the Mayidavōlu and *vinēsi* in the Hīrahaḍagalli plates. This word is omitted in the translations of Buhler and Hultzsch. We derive it from the Sanskrit *vaināsika* which the dictionaries give in the sense of 'a slave, a dependent, or a subject.' The obligation to provide servants for touring officers is perhaps meant here.

⁴ Lexicons give *vaha* in the sense of a horse.

⁵ See above, Vol. XXII, p. 175.

⁶ We are not certain about the meaning of this expression.

⁷ [Or 'abiding by the order written above'. *Sāsana-vāda* here and *vachana* in l. 5 above imply the same thing. See p. 153, n. 4.—B. C. C.]

⁸ This corresponds to *ājñā svayam* 'Our own order' in the Tīrōḍi plates. Cf. *sayam=ānatam* and *ānati sayatti dattā* in the Hīrahaḍagalli and Mayidavolu plates respectively.

Hinganghāt, in the Hinganghāt *tahsil* of the Wardhā District. In November 1940 the plates were sent to the Nagpur Museum where they were cleaned by Mr. M. A. Suboor, Coin Expert of the Museum. For the excellent facsimiles which accompany this article I am obliged to Mr. Suboor who copied the plates at the Government Press, Nagpur. I have also to thank Dr. S. S. Patwardhan, Curator of the Nagpur Museum, for his kind help in discovering this interesting record.

The copper-plates are four in number, each measuring 8" by 4.11". The first and fourth plates are inscribed on one side only and the remaining two on both the sides. When the plates reached the Nagpur Museum, they were held together by a ring, but its ends were neither joined by a pin nor soldered. The seal which it must have carried is not forthcoming now. All the plates are in a good state of preservation, and there is consequently no uncertainty in the reading anywhere. The weight of the four plates is 185½ *tolas* and that of the ring is 16 *tolas*.

The record consists of 36 lines, six being written on each inscribed face of the four plates. The characters are of the box-headed variety and resemble those of the other grants of the Vākāṭaka king Pravarasēna II. The following peculiarities may be noted: the box is in some cases fixed to the back of *j*, instead of being added at the top, see *mahārāja*- in ll. 7 and 8; in some other cases the box is not added at all, see *mahārāja*- in l. 14; the sign of the *upadhmānīya* which occurs in ll. 13, 15 and 33 has in all cases a box at the top which is not noticed in other records; final *m* which is written in a smaller size has a box-head in *siddham*, but not in *drishṭam*, both in l. 1; the *anusvāra* is shown by a crescent and the medial *au* is bipartite everywhere; *kh* is without a loop at the bottom¹ in both the places where it occurs, see *khanaka*-, l. 27 and *likhita*, l. 36; the lingual *ḍ* is distinguished from the dental *d* in *danḍa*, l. 11, but not in *Maṇḍuki*-, l. 18 and *Kaunḍinya*, l. 19; the subscript *t* is, in some cases, looped, but as in the Bēlorā plates² the loop is elongated in order to distinguish it from *n*, see *bhaktasya*, l. 4 and *vrīttēr*-, l. 12; finally, single and double dots are used here and there to denote punctuation which is redundant in most cases.

The language is Sanskrit and except for an imprecatory verse in ll. 34-35, the record is in prose throughout. Like other Vākāṭaka copper-plate inscriptions it contains some mistakes of grammar and orthography which are corrected in the subjoined text and the foot-notes added to it. As regards orthography, we find that consonants are reduplicated before and after *r* as in *parākkram*-, l. 5 and *mūrdh*-, l. 6; *th* is reduplicated before *y* in *Bhāgīratthy*-, l. 6 and *visarga* before *p* is changed to *upadhmānīya* in ll. 13, 15 and 33.

Like other finished Vākāṭaka grants, the present record opens with the word *drishṭam* 'seen'. The plates were issued by Pravarasēna II of the Vākāṭaka dynasty from Nandivar-dhana. His genealogy is traced here exactly as in his other grants, his maternal grandfather Chandragupta II being called Dēvagupta. It may, however, be noted that the present plates spell some proper names somewhat differently from other Vākāṭaka records discovered so far. The medial *i* of *tī* in *Prabhāvatiguptā*, for instance, is invariably short in all the records discovered till now and the shortening can be justified by a grammatical rule,³ but the present plates read in l. 15 *Prabhāvatiguptā* quite clearly. Similarly *vī* in *Prīthivishēṇa* has a long medial vowel here, whereas it is usually short in other records.⁴

¹ In other grants of Pravarasēna II, *kh* has a loop at the bottom, see, e.g., *likhita* in l. 35 of the Siwani plates, *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, Pl. XXXV; but it is noteworthy that in the Chammak plates issued in the same regnal year it is unlooped, see *khanaka*-, l. 28, *ibid.*, Pl. XXXIV.

² Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 260.

³ Above, Vol. XV, p. 42, n. 10. See Pāṇini, VI, 3, 63.

⁴ In the Bēlorā plates (Set A) the medial *i* of *vī* is long as here. See above, Vol. XXIV, p. 264.

The object of the present inscription is to record the grant, by Pravarasēna II, of the village Kōthuraka which was situated in the territorial division (*āhāra*) of Supratishṭha. The village lay to the west of the Umā river, to the north of Chiñchāpallī, to the east of Bōnthikavāṭaka and to the south of Maṇḍukigrāma. The donee was the celibate Brāhmaṇa Kāluttaka who belonged to the Kauṇḍinya *gōtra* and the Taittirīya *śākhā* of the Black Yajurveda. The grant was made at the victorious place of religious worship (*vaijayikē dharma-sthānē*)¹ and is dated on the twelfth lunar day of the bright fortnight of Āśvina in the second regnal year. The *dūtaka* was Chakradēva and the scribe Nāgavarman. Neither of these is known from any other Vākāṭaka grant.

The grant recorded on the Bēlorā plates (Set B), discovered two years ago, was so far the earliest one of Pravarasēna II, being dated in his eleventh regnal year. The present grant is still earlier, as it was made in the second year after his accession. It has fully confirmed some of the conclusions drawn from the Bēlorā plates. **There is now no doubt that Pravarasēna II was different from Divākarasēna**, the *Yuvarāja*, for whom his mother Prabhāvatī-guptā was acting as a regent even in the thirteenth year after his accession as a boy-prince.² Again, like the Poona plates of Prabhāvatīguptā³ and the Bēlorā plates (Set A) of Pravarasēna II, the present plates also were issued from Nandivardhana. This place was, therefore, undoubtedly the earlier capital of the Vākāṭakas before the foundation of Pravarapura by Pravarasēna II. As these plates were issued in the beginning of Pravarasēna's reign, they do not enable us to state when the capital was shifted to Pravarapura.

The donee of the present plates is called *gaṇa-yājīn*. It may therefore be conjectured that the grant was made on the occasion of a *gaṇa-yāga* at which he officiated as a priest. The term *gaṇa-yāga* can, however, be variously interpreted. It may mean a sacrifice performed for a *gaṇa* or guild. Such sacrifices performed for a multitude of men were, however, discouraged in ancient times. Both Manu and Viṣṇu regard the Brāhmaṇas who officiated at such sacrifices as unfit for invitation to a *śrāddha*.⁴ As the present grant was made by a king and not by a guild, this meaning of *gaṇa-yāga* is evidently inapplicable here. The *Vāchaspatya* explains *gaṇayajña* as a sacrifice performed by a number of brothers and sisters and cites *Kātyāyana-Śrautasūtra* 22, 11, 12 and 25, 13, 29 in support of this interpretation. But this explanation also is unlikely in the present case. The *Manusmṛiti* (III, 164) enjoins that the priest who offers sacrifices to Gaṇas should be avoided at a *śrāddha*. The expression *gaṇānām yājakaḥ* is variously taken by the commentators of Manu. Nārāyaṇa and Nandana take it to mean one who sacrifices for *gaṇas*, i.e., many persons or guilds, but such persons are already excluded by *Manusmṛiti* III, 151. Other commentators including Mādhatithi and Kullūka think that Vināyaka- or Gaṇēśa-hōma may be meant by *gaṇa-yāga*. The *Mānava-Grihyasūtra* (II, 14) and the *Yājñavalkyasmṛiti* (I, 271 ff.) mention almost in identical terms a rite for the

¹ I have pointed out before that this expression invariably occurs in the grants of Pravarasēna II, which were made at the capital. See above, Vol. XXII, p. 170.

² See above, Vol. XXIV, p. 262.

³ *Ibid.*, Vol. XV, pp. 39 ff. Both the Poona and the Bēlorā plates spell the name of this place as *Nāndivardhana* with a long medial vowel in *nā* which led Dr. Randle to think that the place might be different from the Nandivardhana mentioned in the Rithapur plates of the Nala king Bhavadattavarman (above, Vol. XIX, p. 102). See *New Ind. Ant.*, Vol. II, p. 177. The place-name is spelt here exactly as in Bhavadattavarman's plates.

⁴ *Manusmṛiti*, III, 151; *Viṣṇusmṛiti*, LXXXII, 8-9. A passage from the *Yamasmṛiti* cited in the *Parāśara-Dharmasamhitā* (Bom. Sanskrit Series, No. XLVIII, p. 358) mentions *śrēṇi-yājaka-yājakaḥ* in the same context.

propitiation of Vināyakas,¹ but it is not known if the priest who performed the rite incurred any guilt. Dr. Bühler's suggestion,² therefore, that the reference in *Manusmṛiti* III, 164, may be to the *gaṇa-hōmas* mentioned by *Baudhāyana-Dharmasūtra* appears to be preferable. Baudhāyana lays down the following procedure for the performance of the *gaṇa-hōmas*.³ A person who has purified himself by certain restraints should after fasting for three days and nights commence the performance of the sacred rite, making offerings of boiled rice and clarified butter and reciting certain *mantras* in the morning, at midday and in the evening. At the end of one week during which these *hōmas* are continued, he should feed Brāhmaṇas, and distribute to them cows, land, sesamum and gold. These *gaṇa-hōmas* are to be performed by a person for himself. A Brāhmaṇa is, however, allowed to perform the rite for his teacher, father and mother, but for none else. If he performs it for others through greed, he is tainted by sin and perishes like one who has swallowed poison. Baudhāyana, however, says later on (IV, 8, 10) that 'through a desire of removing one's guilt one may cause these oblations to be offered by men who have been engaged for money in case one is unable to do it; a man need not torment himself.' This means, as explained by the commentator Gōvindasvāmin, that the wealthy man who engages a priest for the performance of the rite will be freed from sin, but the latter will be tainted by guilt.⁴ This explains why the priests who performed *gaṇa-hōmas* for others out of greed were avoided at a *śrāddha*. Naturally few people must have come forward to do the rite and those who did it received a high reward. The case is analogous to that of the first annual *śrāddha* in honour of a dead person or to that of a *śrāddha* at an eclipse.⁴ The donee of the present plates seems to have performed such a *gaṇa-hōma* for Pravarasēna II from whom he received a village as his sacrificial fee.

As for the localities mentioned in the present grant, Nandivardhana has already been identified with Nagardhan or Nandardhan near Rāmtek in the Nāgpur District. Kōthuraka, the donated village, cannot now be traced. Its site seems to be occupied by Mangaon on the right bank of the Wunnā, about 2½ miles north by west of Jāmb, since all the boundary villages mentioned in the present plates can be identified in its vicinity in their respective directions. Thus Chichāpalli is Chicholi which also is situated on the right bank of the same river Wunnā, half a mile to the south of Mangaon; Bōnthikavāṭaka is now called Bōthaḍ and Maṇḍukigrāma, Māṇḍgaon, about 3½ miles to the north by west and 2 miles to the north respectively from Mangaon. The *Wardhā District Gazetteer* records a tradition that Māṇḍgaon is named after one Māṇḍo Rishi who is said to have done penance on the Wunnā river.⁵ The present grant, however, shows that the ancient name of the place was Maṇḍukigrāma. The identification of these three boundaries shows that the Umā river which formed the eastern boundary of the donated village is none other than the Wunnā. No place exactly corresponding to Supratishṭha, the headquarters of the āhāra in which these villages were situated, can now be traced, but it seems to have comprised roughly the territory now included in the Hīnganḥāṭ *tahsil*. This āhāra was already known from the Poona plates of Prabhāvatīguptā, but no clue to its identification was so far available. It is now furnished by the present plates

¹ R. G. Bhandarkar, *Vaiṣṇavism, Śaivism etc.*, pp. 147 ff. Varāhamihira's *Bṛhat-saṃhitā*, adhyāya II (Sudhākar Dwivedi's ed., Vol. I, p. 91) also mentions *gaṇa-yāgas* which the commentator Bhaṭṭotpala explains as *guhya-ka-pūjana*, the worship of the demigods called *guhnyakas*.

² See his *Laws of Manu*, S. B. E., Vol. XXV, p. 106.

³ *Baudhāyana-Dharmasūtra*, Prāsna IV, adhyāyas 7 and 8. See Bühler's translation in S. B. E., Vol. XIV, pp. 329 ff.

⁴ See Gōvindasvāmin's commentary on *Baudhāyana-Dharmasūtra*, IV, 8, 9.

⁵ *Wardhā District Gazetteer*, (1906), p. 250.

which show that Prabhāvatiguptā's plates, though discovered in far-off Poona, originally belonged to the Hinganghāt *taluk*.¹ These plates record the grant of the village Daṅguṇa which was situated in the Supratishthāhāra and lay to the east of Vilavaṇaka, to the south of Śīrshagrāma, to the west of Kadāpiṇjana and to the north of Sidivivaraka. None of these places have been identified so far. Two of them I have been able to trace in the vicinity of Hinganghāt. Vilavaṇaka seems to be Vaṇi, about 2½ miles to the west and Kadāpiṇjana may be Kadhājan 3 miles to the south by east of Hinganghāt. Hinganghāt seems therefore to occupy the same position as the ancient village Daṅguṇa. The latter place-name appears to have been changed to Hingāṇ in course of time, *ghāt* being added to it as it was a fording place on the Wunnā. It is noteworthy that the name of the village Kavaḍghāt on the opposite bank of the same river also ends in *ghāt*.

TEXT.²

First Plate.

- 1 द्वि(द्व)ष्टम् [।*] सिद्धम् [।*] स्वस्त(स्ति) नन्दिर्वर्धना[त् ।*] अग्निष्टोमामोर्यामोवथ्य-
षोडश्यतिरात्र-
- 2 वाजपेयबृहस्य(स्य)तिसवसाद्यस्त्रचतुरश्वमेधयाजिनः³ विष्णुवृद्ध-
- 3 सगोत्रस्य सम्नाद⁴ वाकाटकानाम्महाराजश्रीप्रवरसेनस्य सूनो सूनो⁵
- 4 अत्यन्तस्वामिमहाभैरवभक्तस्य ॥⁶ असंभार⁷सन्निवेशितशिवलिङ्गो-
- 5 [ह]हनशिवसुपरितुष्टसमुत्पादितराजवंशानाम् पराङ्गमाधिगतभागी-
- 6 रत्नमलजलमूर्द्धाभिषिक्तानां दशाश्वमेधावभ्युक्ताताना(नां) भारशिवानां

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 7 महाराजश्रीभवनागदौहित्रस्य गौतमि(मौ)पुत्रस्य पुत्रस्य ।⁸ वाकाट-
- 8 कानाम्महाराजश्रीरुद्रसेनस्य सूनोः अत्यन्तमाहेश्वरस्य ॥⁹
- 9 सत्यार्जवकारुण्यशौर्यविक्रमनयविनयमाहात्म्यधौमत्व(स्व)-
- 10 पात्रगतभ[क्ति]त्वधर्मविजयित्वमनोनेर्मत्वादिगुणैस्समु-

¹ The coppersmith with whom the plates were found originally hailed from Ahmednagar. See above, Vol. XV, p. 39.

² From ink-impressions.

³ Here and in many places below, rules of *sandhi* have not been observed.

⁴ Read *Samrājō*.

⁵ Read *sūnōḥ sūnōḥ*.

⁶ This mark of punctuation is superfluous.

⁷ The *anusvāra* is misplaced. Read *ansa-bhāra*.

⁸ This mark of punctuation is superfluous.

- 11 पेतस्य ॥¹ व[र्ष]शतमभिवर्द्धमानकोशदण्डसाधनसन्तान-
 12 पुत्रपौत्रि[ः] युधिष्ठिरवृत्तेर्वाकाटकानाम्महाराजश्रीपृथिवी-

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 13 सेनस्य² सूनोर्भगवत्सङ्क्रपाणे³ प्रसादा(दो)पार्जितश्रीसमुदयस्य
 14 महाराजश्री(श्री)रुद्रसेनस्य सूनोः महाराजाधिराजश्रीदेवगुप्त-
 15 सुताय(यां) प्रभावतौगुप्ताय(या)मुत्पन्नस्य ॥⁴ शश्वो⁵ प्रसादधृति(त)कार्त-
 16 युगस्य ।⁶ वाकाटकानाम्परममाहेस्वरमहारा[ज*]श्रीप्रवरसेन-
 17 स्य वचना[त्*] । सुप्रतिष्ठाह(हा)रे ।⁷ उमानद्या अपरपार्श्वे । चिंचापल्या⁸
 18 उत्तरे पार्श्वे ।⁹ बोन्यिकवाटकस्य ।¹⁰ पूर्व पार्श्वे ।¹¹ मण्डुकिग्रामस्य

Third Plate ; First Side.

- 19 दक्षिणे पार्श्वे ।¹² कोयुरकग्रामग्रामः कौण्डिन्यसगोत्र ।¹³ तैत्तिरिकगणयाजि-
 20 कालुङ्कब्रह्मचारिणे दत्ताः¹⁴ [।*] यतोऽस्मत्सन्तकाः सर्व्वद्व्यन्ननियोगनियुक्ता
 21 आन्नासंचारिकुलपुत्राधिकृताः भट्टा¹⁵श्चात्र विधुतपूर्व्वयान्नाप्रापयि-
 22 तव्या¹⁶ विदितमस्तु वः यथेहास्माभिरात्मनो धर्मायुर्बलविजयैश्वर्यवि-
 23 दृश्ये इहामुत्रहितार्थमात्मानुग्रहाय वैजयिके धम्म(म्ह)स्थाने अपूर्व्वद-
 24 त्या(त्था) उदकपूर्व्वमतिष्ठः [।*] यथास्थोपचिता¹⁷ पूर्व्वराजानुमताश्चातुर्व्वेद्य-

Third Plate ; Second Side.

- 25 ग्राममर्थ्यादान्वितराम¹⁸स्तद्यथा अकरदायि¹⁹ अभट्टच्छत्र²⁰प्रावेश्य[ः] अपा-
 26 रम्परगोबलवर्द्ध[ः]²¹ अपुष्पचीरसन्दोह[ः*] अवा(चा)रासनचर्माङ्गार[ः*] अल-

¹ This mark of punctuation is superfluous.

² Read *Śrī-Prithivishēnasya*.

³ Read *Chinchāpallyā*.

⁴ Read *Taittirīya*.

⁵ Read *dattāh*.

⁶ Read *bhaṭṭa* as in other Vākāṭaka grants.

⁷ Read *viśrūṭa-pūrvvay-ājñay-ājñāpayitavyāh*.

⁸ Read *sy-ōchilām*.

⁹ Read *maryyādām vitarāmas*.

¹⁰ Read *akara-dāyī*.

¹¹ Read *-chchhātra* as in other Vākāṭaka grants.

¹² Read *-balivarddah*.

KOTHURAKA GRANT OF PRAVARASENA II.

i.

2 2 4 6

ii,a.

8 10 12

ii,b.

14 16 18

iii,a.

20 22 24

iii,b.

26 28 30

iv.

32 34 36

- 27 वणक्लिन्नक्लेनीखनकः¹ सर्व्वेष्टिसपरिहार²परिहृतः सनिधिः
 28 सोपनिधि[:*] सक्लिप्तोपक्लिप्त[:] आचन्द्रादित्यकालि(ली)यः पुत्रपौत्रानु[गा*]-
 29 मिकः भुञ्जता(तो) न केनचिद्व्याघातयितव्यः सर्व्वक्याभि³स्मरन्तितव्य[:*]
 30 परिवर्द्धयितव्यश्चा(श्च) [I*] यश्चास्मच्छासनमगणयमानः स्वल्पामपि परिवाधां
 31 कुर्यात्कारयित वा⁵ तस्य ब्राह्मणैर्व्वेदितस्य सदण्डं निग्रहं कुर्याम ॥
 32 अस्मिंश्च धर्म्मादरकरणे अतीतानेकराजदत्तां सञ्चिन्तनपरिपालन⁶
 33 कृतपुण्यानुकीर्त्तनपरिहारार्थं न कीर्त्तयामः [I*] व्यासगि(गो)तश्चात्र श्लोक५प्रमाणे-
 34 कर्त्तव्य[:] [I*] स्वदत्तां परदत्तां वा हरेद्यो वै वसुन्धरा[म्*] । गवां शत-
 सहस्रस्य
 35 हन्तुर्हरति दुष्कृतं(तम्)⁷ । [I१॥*] संवत्सरे द्वितीये अश्वयुज⁸मासशुक्लद्वादश्या(श्यां) ।⁹
 36 चक्रदेवदूतकः¹⁰ नागवर्म्मणा लिखित[म्*] । ॥ * ॥¹¹

No. 22.—A NOTE ON THE DATES OF THREE RASHTRAKUTA KINGS.

BY THE LATE MR. A. S. RAMANATHA AYYAR, B.A., MADRAS.

Indra III—A. D. 915-27 (?)

The Rāshtrakūṭa king Indra III had the distinctive title of 'Nityavarsha', while his son Gōvinda IV had the titles of 'Prabhūtavarsha' and 'Suvarṇavarsha'. The earliest record in which this Prabhūtavarsha (i. e., Gōvinda IV) figures is one from Daṇḍāpur¹² in the Bombay-Karnāṭak, which is dated in Śaka 840 (expired), Pramāthin, Makara-saṅkramaṇa, corresponding

¹ Read -krēṇi-khanakaḥ.

² Read sarvva-vishṭi-parihāra.

³ Read sa-kṣipt-ōpakṣiptaḥ.

⁴ Read sarvva-kriyābhī-

⁵ Read kārayēd-vā.

⁶ Read -rāja-datta-saṅchintana-paripālanam.

⁷ Metre : Anuṣṭubh.

⁸ Read Āśvayuja-

⁹ This mark of punctuation is superfluous.

¹⁰ Read Chakradēva-dūtakam.

¹¹ There is a floral design between these two sets of danda.

¹² Ind. Ant. Vol. XII, p. 222, and B. K. No. 63 of 1933-34.

to A. D. 918, December 23, while the latest date Śaka 857 (wrong for Śaka 856), Vijaya, corresponding to A. D. 933-34 is furnished by three records¹ from Honnālī in the Mysore State. On the strength of these, Mr. Altekar has concluded² that Indra III had died in about A. D. 917 and that Gōvinda IV, who succeeded him, probably after a short rule of one year of his elder brother Amōghavarsha II, had actually reigned for about 15 years from A. D. 919 to 934.

This statement seems to require modification in the light of some other inscriptions of Indra III which have been copied from the Bellary and Cuddapah Districts of the Madras Presidency and from Bombay-Karnāṭak. One of these from Kuḍatani³ in the Bellary District is dated in Vikrama, which corresponded to Śaka [842], (=A. D. 920-21). Another from Kaḍabagere⁴ in the same district belonging to the reign of Nityavarsha Indra-Vallabha is dated in Śaka 844, Chitrabhānu, corresponding to A. D. 922, September 9. A third from Asundi⁵ in the Bombay-Karnāṭak, belonging to a Nityavarsha, bears the Śaka year 847 and the cyclic year Pārthiva (=A. D. 925-26). One other record⁶ of the same Nityavarsha from Hālaharavi in the Bellary District is stated to be dated in the same cyclic year Pārthiva, but the Śaka year appears to have been wrongly quoted therein as 854. Yet another record⁷ recently copied from Kamalāpuram in the Cuddapah District, furnishes for Nityavarsha Indra-narēndra the date Śaka 848, Pārthiva, Uttarāyana-saṅkramaṇa. The actual wording is as follows :

Svasti[*] Nityavarsha Prithivīvallabha Mahārājādhirāja Paramēśvara Paramabhāṭṭāraka-
ōttarōttarābhivṛddhi-pravardhamāna-vijaya-Mahāratta-rājyado[=Indra-narēndrana rājyam
saluttire Pallavādhiraṁ Muḷki-aynūruvaṇ=āluttire Svasti samadhiḡaṭa-paṇcha-mahāśabda
mahāsāmantaṁ vikrānta-Rāman vikrānta-Bhīman.....Svasti Śaka-nṛpa-kālātita-saṁvatsaraṅ-
ga[=eṇṭunūra-nālvatt-eṇṭaneya Pārthiva-saṁvatsaraṁ pravarttise tadvarsha-abhyantar-
ōttarāyana-saṅkrāntiy-andu etc.

The full astronomical details of the date are not given, but the date may be equated to A. D. 925, December 23. From the Bombay-Karnāṭak come two records⁸ belonging to a Nityavarsha Nirupama-Vallabha, of which one from Gadag in the Dharwar District is dated in Śaka 840, Bahudhānya, corresponding to A. D. 918, July 18. From the distinctive title 'Nityavarsha',⁹ it may be assigned to Indra III himself, for whom therefore the new title of 'Nirupama' appears to be indicated in this epigraph. If this is accepted, the other record of the same king Nityavarsha Nirupama-Vallabha from Haleṛitti dated in Śaka 850, Śarvadhāri, Pushya=A. D. 927, December, may also be considered to belong to Indra III, in which case Śaka 850 will be the

¹ *Ep. Carn.*, Vol. VII, Hn. 21 to 23.

² *Rāshtrakūṭas and their Times*, p. 105.

³ No. 47 of 1904 of the Madras Epigl. collection.

⁴ *South Indian Inscriptions*, Vol. IX, No. 57.

⁵ B. K. No. 162 of 1926-27.

⁶ No. 540 of 1915 of the Mad. Epigl. colln. In *S. I. I.*, Vol. IX, No. 62, this record has been taken to be one of Gōvinda IV, taking the Śaka year as correct and the cyclic year Pārthiva as wrong; but the latter has been taken as correct above, the Śaka year 854 being considered as wrongly quoted instead of Śaka 847.

⁷ No. 235 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1937-38.

⁸ Nos. 184 of 1932-33 and 47 of 1933-34 of the Bombay-Karnāṭak collection.

⁹ In para. 38 of the *Madras Epigraphical Report* for 1916, it has been suggested that Nityavarsha was probably a title of Gōvinda IV, like that of his father Indra III, on the consideration that No. 540 of 1915 dated in Śaka 854, Pārthiva, could belong to the former only. Taking Pārthiva as correct and equating it to Śaka 847 and not 854, the record may be taken to belong to Indra III, for whom the Kamalāpuram inscription (No. 235 of 1937-38) furnishes the date Śaka 848, Pārthiva. There does not seem to be therefore any necessity for postulating the title of 'Nityavarsha' to Gōvinda IV, for whom the titles known are 'Prabhūtavarsha' and 'Suvarnavarsha' only.

latest date known so far for him. It is therefore possible that Nityavarsha Indra III, whose date of accession¹ was February 24, A. D. 915, actually reigned till at least the end of A. D. 927. He may have continued for some time longer.

Gōvinda IV (A. D. 930-34).

The Cambay plates of Gōvinda IV² dated in Śaka 852=(May 10, A. D. 930), contain an important item of information which, in the light of the facts noted above, receives a new significance. It is stated therein that when the king, having come from his capital Mānyakhēṭa, was staying at a village called Kapitthakā on the day specified, on the occasion of the *paṭṭabandha* festival, he performed the great *tulābhāra* ceremony and also made munificent donations to Brāhmins and temples. In fact his gifts to Brāhmins are stated to have been as many as 600 *agrahāras* and 3,00,000 *suvarṇas*, while those to temples aggregated to 800 villages and 4,00,000 *suvarṇas* and 32,00,000 *drāmmas* in coin. Even allowing for an excusable exaggeration in regard to these details, such exuberant liberality was hardly rivalled by any other Rāshtrakūṭa sovereign.

Dr. Bhandarkar who has edited these plates in the *Epigraphia Indica*³ has argued that the *paṭṭabandha* cannot refer to a royal coronation ceremony, for the reasons that Gōvinda figures in an inscription of A. D. 918, that it is unnatural to expect that the king will have gone to a village away from his capital for the *paṭṭabandha* ceremony, and that the period of 11 years from A. D. 919 to A. D. 930 is too great an interval for Gōvinda to have continued simply as an heir-apparent. In view, however, of the discovery of distinct records dated in A. D. 922 and 925, and possibly also in A. D. 927 for Indra III, as pointed out above, the event glorified in the Cambay plates may very reasonably be considered to have been the coronation of Gōvinda IV himself, the magnitude of the gifts detailed therein indicating clearly an occasion of considerable importance. It may be noted that Indra III also celebrated his *paṭṭabandha* ceremony at a village named Kurundaka, as stated in the Nausāri copper-plate grant⁴ of this king dated in A. D. 915, and that even longer terms of heir-apparency are not unknown, for to quote but one instance, the Chōla prince Rājādhirāja (A. D. 1018-53) was a crown-prince for over 26 years till A. D. 1044, before he became the reigning king. The inference seems therefore to be warranted that Indra III continued to reign as king till at least A. D. 927, and that Gōvinda IV succeeded to the Rāshtrakūṭa throne in May, A. D. 930, after a short interval of a year or so, in which his elder brother Amōghavarsha II had perhaps reigned, as indicated by the statement in the Bhadana plates⁵ of Aparājita-Śilāhāra.

In this case, one small point seems to require elucidation as to why, while an elder son was living, the younger Gōvinda should have been chosen heir-apparent in about A. D. 918, whereas Amōghavarsha's claim for succession should have been recognised only later at the time of Indra's death. It must have been this acknowledgment of the rightful claim of Amōghavarsha that appears to have incited the darker traits in Gōvinda's character; for if the sententious denials made in the Sāngli plates that Gōvinda 'did not act cruelly towards his elder brother' mean anything, they seem to indicate that Gōvinda may have indirectly helped in the removal of his elder brother, whose existence had barred his way to the Rāshtrakūṭa throne.

¹ Nausāri copper-plate referred to in the *Bom. Gaz.*, Vol. I, pt. ii, p. 415.

² *Ante*, Vol. VII, p. 27.

³ *Ante*, Vol. VII, p. 27, f. n. 2.

⁴ *Bom. Gaz.*, Vol. I, pt. ii, p. 415. According to the Bagumrā plates, Indra III performed a *tulāpurusha-dāna* at a village named Kurundaka (*ante*, Vol. IX, p. 24).

⁵ Quoted in Altekar, *loc. cit.*, p. 105.

The actual reign of Gōvinda IV is thus reduced to a short period of about four years only—from May, A. D. 930 to the middle of A. D. 934. Owing to his wicked life, this king, it is stated, was very unpopular, and his ministers and feudatories¹ conspired to oust him. The Eastern Chālukya king Bhīma II claims to have defeated the army of Gōvinda IV in about the year A. D. 934²; and this defeat must have been the signal for the discontented elements at the Rāshtrakūṭa capital to flare up into activity. The result was that Gōvinda was deposed, and Amōghavarsha III, an uncle of Gōvinda in a collateral line, a religious man already well-advanced in years,³ was chosen by the feudatories to be the king. It is not definitely stated anywhere that Gōvinda died on this occasion—he may perhaps have lived some years longer; but his career as a Rāshtrakūṭa king probably ended with A. D. 934.

Krishṇa III (A. D. 939-67).

The records of Krishṇa III found in the Kannaḍa country are most of them dated in Śaka years, while his numerous Tamiḷ records in the Toṇḍai-maṇḍalam, following apparently the procedure in vogue in the Tamiḷ districts, mention only his regnal years. However, an inscription from Pādūr⁴ in the Tirukkōyilūr Taluk of the South Arcot District is of interest in this connection, as quoting his regnal year 26, coupled with the astronomical details—**Vṛiśchika, ba. 3, Wednesday, Mṛigaśirsha**. Even here the omission of the Śaka and the cyclic years is unfortunate, but the English equivalent can, however, be calculated.

Now, Amōghavarsha III, the father and predecessor of Krishṇa III, was alive on December 3, A. D. 939.⁵ So the date of accession of Krishṇa III must have been somewhere in the neighbourhood of this date, and his 26th year would fall in the interval between A. D. 960 and 970. On verification it is found that **A. D. 964, October 26, Wednesday**,⁶ and no other date in this interval, agrees so well with the given details. This being a day in the 26th regnal year of the king, the date of his accession must have been some day between October 27, A. D. 938 and October 26, A. D. 939.

As stated already, Krishṇa's predecessor Amōghavarsha was alive on December 3, A. D. 939. If so, how can the date of accession of his successor Krishṇa III be some date prior to October 27, of the same year? For this to be possible, we shall have to suppose that Krishṇa had been formally anointed *yuvārāja* during the last days of his father himself; and when we take into consideration the fact that Amōghavarsha III was already a man of advanced age with a deeply religious bent of mind at the time of his selection as king, there is nothing out of the ordinary in his having associated his son Krishṇa along with himself in the administration, and in his having actually anointed him some time prior to his own demise. A record⁷ from the Sorab Taluk of the Mysore State furnishes Śaka 861 (=A. D. 939), December 23rd, as the earliest date for Krishṇa III with the imperial titles. The Dēoli plates⁸ dated approximately on 30th April A. D. 940, mention that Krishṇa succeeded to the throne only after Amōghavarsha's death and

¹ Among such feudatories the Chālukya chieftain Arikēśarin, the patron of the poet Pampa, was one—*Ante*, Vol. VII, p. 34.

² The Kaluchumbharu grant of Ammarāja II, *ante*, Vol. VII, p. 177.

³ Altekar, *Rāshtrakūṭas and their Times*, p. 111.

⁴ No. 281 of 1936-37 of the Madras Epigraphical collection.

⁵ Isāmudra inscription dated in Śaka 861, Vikārin=A. D. 939, December 3 (*Ep. Carn.*, Vol. XI, Cd. 77).

⁶ According to the *Indian Ephemeris*, the *tithi* was current till '54 and the *nakshatra* till '48 of the day. (*Ann. Rep. on S. I. Epigraphy for 1936-37*, p. 47).

⁷ *Ep. Carn.*, Vol. VIII, Sorab 476. The details are Śaka 861, Vikārin, Uttarāyāṇa, Monday=A. D. 939, December 23, Monday.

⁸ *Ante*, Vol. V, p. 188.

this statement is not in conflict with what had been said above : for Krishna's actual coronation as 'king' must have occurred only after the death of Amoghavarsha sometime towards the end of A. D. 939, though he may have been anointed *yuvarāja* a few months earlier, and calculated the subsequent dates of his reign retrospectively from this initial date.

The two limits, namely, October 27, A.D. 938, and October 26, A.D. 939, between which the date of accession of Krishna III fell may therefore be accepted. They may, however, be narrowed down somewhat.

As Mr. N. Lakshminarayan Rao has shown above, Vol. XXI, p. 262, Krishna must have passed away a short time prior to February, A. D. 967, (*i.e.*) towards the end of A.D. 966 or in the beginning of A. D. 967. It may therefore be inferred that the accession of Krishna III was calculated from August or September A.D. 939, though his actual coronation as 'king' took place only in December of that year, that he reigned for 27 full years and a portion of the 28th year, and that his death may have occurred in about December, A. D. 966, or January A. D. 967.¹

No. 23.—INDIAN MUSEUM PLATES OF GANGA INDRAVARMAN.

By C. C. DAS GUPTA, M.A.

This set of copper-plates was found in a village of the Badakhimedi estate in the Ganjam District of the Madras Presidency and was acquired, along with eight other similar sets, for the Archaeological Section of the Indian Museum through Mr. S. Rajaguru, Municipal Councillor, Parlakimedi. Two of the nine sets belong to the Ganga king Indravarman², one of which has already been edited by Mr. P. N. Bhattacharyya of the Archaeological Section of the Indian Museum³. The other I edit here, with the kind permission of Mr. T. N. Ramachandran, Officiating Superintendent of the Archaeological Section of the Indian Museum, Calcutta.

This set consists of **three copper-plates**, each measuring $7\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ ", strung together by means of a copper-ring at their one end which was held by a seal of $1\frac{1}{8}$ " diameter marked with the figure of a couchant bull. Altogether they weigh 80 *tolas* including the ring. The first plate is engraved on one side only, the second and third on both their sides. The inscription consists of 40 lines, each side of the plates containing 9 lines except the last which contains only 4 lines.

¹ In a long footnote Mr. Altekar has tried to fix the period of Krishna's reign (*Rāshtrakūṭas and their Times*, pp. 122, 123); but he has taken the Kilūr record to be dated in the 30th year (instead of 20th, as revised). He has also equated the details of the Kolagallu record (No. 236 of 1913) to A. D. 968, February 17th, instead of A. D. 967, February 17th, as calculated in *ante*, Vol. XXI, p. 262. It may be noted that an inscription from the Mysore State (*Ep. Carn.*, Vol. VIII, Holalkere 23) of the reign of Akālavarsha Pratihivallabha is dated in Śaka 841, Vibhava. The astronomical details therein do not work correctly for Vibhava. Further as Krishna is stated to have died at the time of the Kolagallu inscription (17th February, 967) the Holalkere record of a later date for him is inexplicable. There seems to be some mistake either in the actual year quoted in the document, or there must have been some jumbling of the southern and northern cycles of reckoning. Records of Khattis dated in Śaka 890, Prabhava, and Śaka 890, Vibhava, are known (*Ep. Carn.*, Vol. VIII, Nos. 731 and 732; *ibid.*, Vol. XI, Cd. 50).

² *An. Rep. A. S. I.*, 1935-36, p. 110, F. & G. Of the nine sets of copper-plates the other eight have already been edited. (Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 73 ff., pp. 78 ff., pp. 141 ff., pp. 261 ff., and Vol. XXIV, pp. 129 ff.)

³ Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 78 ff.

The characters used in this inscription belong to the South Indian Nāgarī type and may be assigned to the 10th century A.D.¹ With regard to the formation of individual letters, it may be pointed out that *ē*, *t*, *th*, *p* and *v* have two signs each, as found in the following examples : *vishaē* (l. 9) and *ētaḍ* (l. 13) ; °*vataś*= (l. 1) and °*nātaḥ* (l. 22) ; *nātha* (l. 6) and °*thivi* (l. 9) ; *parama* (l. 8) and *prati*° (l. 28) ; °*vataś*= (l. 1) and °*vāsinaḥ* (l. 13). Besides *d* and *n* have three forms each, as found in the following examples : *pāḍa*° (l. 6), *khātādi* (l. 15) and *parada*° (l. 28) ; *nivā*° (l. 3), *nichaya* (l. 4) and °*nēka* (l. 7). So far as the medial vowels are concerned, *ā* has five signs as found in *Śvētkā* (l. 1), *kāraṇa* (l. 2), *bhaṭṭā*° (l. 3), *sāmanta* (l. 4), °*dhyātō* (l. 6) ; *i* three signs as found in *svasti* (l. 1), *shatki* (l. 4), *giri* (l. 6) ; *ī* two signs as in *Kalī*° (l. 5), *kīrti* (l. 18) ; *u* three different signs as in *bhuja* (l. 4), °*mātyu*° (l. 11), *bhuvā* (l. 26) ; *ē* three signs as found in *Śvētkā* (l. 1), *śeṣha* (l. 4), *madhē* (l. 15) ; *ai* two signs as found in *kaidi*° (l. 15), *vāruṇai* (l. 30) ; *ō* six signs as found in *gurō* (l. 1), *hētōr*= (l. 2), *Kōlāula* (l. 6), *grāmō*° (l. 13), *Gōśvā*° (l. 17), *yōnyūn*= (l. 30) ; *au* two signs as found in *gauravāt* (l. 22), *gau*° (l. 22). The language of the record is Sanskrit and the composition is in prose except that eight of the customary verses occur in ll. 23—34. In respect of orthography the following points may be noted : (1) In certain cases *a* is used instead of *ā* as in *akshēptā* (l. 27). (2) *u* has been wrongly placed instead of *au* as it is found in *ubhaū* (l. 29). (3) In *vishaē* (l. 9), the vowel *ē* is substituted for *yē*. (4) Sometimes the letter *ñ* is wrongly used instead of *ś*, as in °*tañ*=*cha* (l. 14). (5) In l. 12 the form *rāṭṭra* has been used for Sanskrit *rāṣṭra* apparently due to the influence of the local dialect. (6) Sometimes *ṭ* has wrongly given place to *ṭh*, as in *śaṣṭhim* (l. 26). (7) *n* is used instead of *ṇ* as in *Gōkarnē*° (l. 3). (8) As in many other inscriptions of this period, no separate sign for *b* has been employed, it being invariably expressed by the sign for *v*. (9) *ś* is wrongly used for *s* and *sh* as in °*kaśya* (l. 3) and *śaṣṭhim* (l. 26) respectively. (10) *sh* is wrongly used for *ś* and *s* as is found in *shatki* (l. 4) and *shalila* (l. 20) respectively. (11) *s* is wrongly used for *sh* and *ś* as in °*ghōsa* (l. 7) and *dasa* (l. 15) respectively. (12) *Anusvāra* is wrongly dropped as in *bhavaṭā* (l. 13) and also wrongly used as in *samṇkā* (l. 24). (13) In the like manner *visarga* is sometimes omitted, as after *nichaya* (l. 4) while it is also wrongly used as in *vahubhiḥ* (l. 23). Other errors in writing have been noticed in the text or the footnotes accompanying it.

Indravarman mentioned in this inscription is the same as Indravarman noted in the other Badakhimedi copper-plates² on account of the following reasons. First, the script used in both these inscriptions is exactly the same. Secondly, the drafts of both these inscriptions are of the same nature. Thirdly, both were issued from Śvētaka, written by Śrī Sāmanta and engraved by Svayambhu. If we study the Ganjām plates of Prithivivarman,³ the Badakhimedi copper-plates of Indravarman⁴ and the present record, then we can form the following genealogical table :—

Mahindravarman
|
Prithivivarman
|
Indravarman=Gōsvāminī

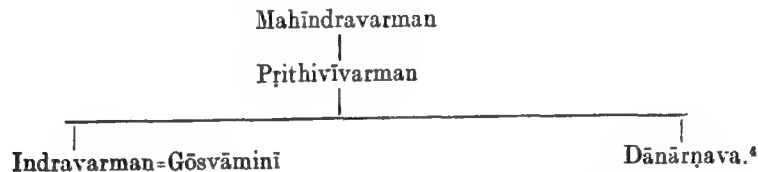
¹ There is a great similarity between this inscription and the plates of Bhūpēndravarmadēva (above, Vol. XXIII, p. 265 ff.) which, from the palaeographical point of view, have been rightly ascribed to the 10th century A. D. The Ganjām plates of Prithivivarman (*ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 198 ff.) who is the father of Indravarman mentioned in this and the other set of copper-plates (*ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 78 ff.) should necessarily be ascribed to the 10th or the latter half of the 9th century A.D. and not to the 12th or 13th century as suggested with a doubt by Kielhorn nor to the 12th century as held by Mr. Bhattacharyya.

² *Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 78 ff.

³ *Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 198 ff.

⁴ *Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 78 ff.

The fact that Indravarma had a younger brother named Dānārṇava who succeeded him to the throne may be proved in the following way. It is apparent that *Bhaṭṭaputra* Durgakhaṇḍin, son of Bhaṭṭa Bōdhana of the Vatsa *gōtra* and the *Chhānḍōgya charaṇa*, the donee in one of the Badakhimedi copper-plates of Indravarma¹ is the same as *Bhaṭṭa* Durgakhaṇḍika, the donee of Dānārṇava's grant, coming likewise from the Badakhimedi estate², as the names of the donee's father, *gōtra* and *charaṇa* are the same as in the former. The grantor in the first record is Indravarma while in the second it is Dānārṇava, both of them being the sons of Prithivīvarman. From the above facts it may be concluded that Indravarma and Dānārṇava are brothers. There is still further evidence to show that Indravarma was elder than and preceded Dānārṇava. In the Ganjām plates of Prithivīvarman the writer and the engraver of the grant are respectively *Samdhivigrahin* Śrī Sāmanta and *kāṁsiyakāra* Śrī Sāmanta Svayambhu.³ These two persons also figure in the same capacity in both the Badakhimedi copper-plates of Indravarma, one of them being under discussion, but not in the grant of Dānārṇava. This proves that Indravarma was elder than and preceded Dānārṇava, because had it been exactly opposite, then the writer and the engraver of Dānārṇava's grant would have been those whom we have found in the Ganjām plates of Prithivīvarman. Thus the genealogy of this royal family taking the grant of Dānārṇava into consideration will be as follows :—



The object of this inscription is to record a gift of land, by Indravarma, situated in the village **Bhēṭhīśrīṅga** in *Paṭanikhaṇḍa-vishaya* on the fourteenth day of the bright fortnight of the month of Phālguna for the benefit of his parents and self, to Lōkamādhava, Svayambhukēśvara and some other Brāhmaṇas named Kēśava, Dāupa, Sōmapā, Viṭhu, Madhusūdana, Dhanaśarma, Gaṇapati, Bhṛigudēva, Dēvaśarma, Savarapa and Durgakhaṇḍi.⁵

The places mentioned in this inscription are **Śvētaka**, **Nandagiri**, **Kōlāulapura**, **Paṭanikhaṇḍa-vishaya** and **Bhēṭhīśrīṅga**. As regards Śvētaka, Mr. R. Subba Rao has observed, "It would appear from the *Sthalapurāṇa* that the region round about Śrī-Kūrmam was called *Śvētaka Pushkarani* (sic); and probably the donor had his capital at Śrī-Kūrmam."⁶ Mr. Sarma, however, identifies it with the modern Chikaṭi Zamindari in the Sōmpeṭa taluk of the Ganjām District.⁷ Kōlāulapura has been identified by Rice with the modern Kolar in the east of Mysore and Nandagiri with Nandidrug, the well-known fortified hill to the west of the Kolar District, Mysore.⁸ He proposed these two identifications in connection with the Gaṅgas of Mysore; but if we accept them in connection with the Gaṅgas of Orissa, then we presume that the Gaṅgas

¹ *Ibid.*

² *Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 264.

³ *Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 198 ff.

⁴ I am wholly indebted to Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra, M.A., M.O.L., Ph. D. (Lugd.), for kindly permitting me to make full use of an unpublished article of his regarding this genealogical point. This valuable paper of his will be long published in the *Epigraphia Indica*. [It has since been published, above, Vol. XXV, p. 240—Ed.]

⁵ It may be that this Durgakhaṇḍi is the same as Durgakhaṇḍin mentioned in the other Badakhimedi copper-plates of Indravarma (above, Vol. XXIII, p. 78 ff.) and the grant of Dānārṇava (*ibid.*, Vol. XXIII p. 264).

⁶ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. III, p. 184.

⁷ *J. O. R.*, Vol. XI, p. 58.

⁸ *Mysore and Coorg from the Inscriptions*, p. 32.

of Orissa migrated from Mysore region. Regarding this point Dr. H. C. Roy has observed, "From the fact that they occasionally describe themselves as lords of the city of Kōlāhala it is clear that they considered themselves to be a branch of the Gaṅgas of Mysore. But the story of their migration and settlement from Kolar to Ganjām and the details of their subsequent history must in the present state of our knowledge remain shrouded in considerable obscurity.In the first half of the 11th century we find another series of kings claiming descent from the same line as the above..... That they also traced their descent from the Gaṅgas of Kolar is proved by the Vizagapatam grant of Anantavarman Choḍagaṅga, which clearly mentions Kōlāhala, the founder of Kōlāhalapura, in the Gaṅgavāḍi-vishaya, as one of his ancestors. The same inscription distinctly says that Kāmārṇava, a distant descendant of Kōlāhala, leaving Kōlāhalapura with his brothers, came to the Mahēndra mountain, and having conquered Bālāditya through the favour of the god Gōkarṇasvāmin, took possession of the Kalinga countries"¹ and Vajrahasta (the earliest Gaṅga prince for whom we have any authentic record) is the seventeenth prince from Kāmārṇava. This shows that there is sufficient ground for holding the theory of the migration of the Gaṅgas of Orissa from the Mysore region. But for the distance one would feel tempted to identify Bhēthīśrīṅga with Barsinga on the Brāhmaṇī river.² I cannot suggest any identification for Paṭanikhaṇḍa-vishaya.

TEXT.

First Plate.

- 1 Ōm^s svasti (|*) Śvētkā(tak-ā)dhishṭhānād-bhagavataś=charāchara-gurō⁴ śakala-sasāṅka⁵-śrē (śē)-
- 2 khara-dharaśya⁶||⁷ sthity-utpati(tti)-pralaya-kāraṇa-hētōr=Mahēndrāśchala⁸-śikha-
- 3 ra-nivāsinah śrīmad-Gōkarṇē(rṇē)śvara-bhaṭṭārakaśya(sya) charaṇa-kamal-ārādhana-āvāpta-
- 4 punya(ṇya)-nichaya[h*]||⁷ shatki(śakti)-trayaḥ⁹-prakarsh-ānuraṅjita-śēsha¹⁰-sāmanta-chakra[h*]||⁷ śva(sva)-bhuja-va(ba)-
- 5 la-parākram-ākraṇta||⁷ -sakala-Kali(li)ṅg-ādhirājya[h*] paramamāhēśvarō mā[tā]-
- 6 pitṛi-pād-ānudhyātō Gaṅg-āmala-kula-tilaka[h*] śrī- Nā(Na)nda-giri-nātha[h*] Kōlāulapura-
- 7 pa- pa-
- 7 ṭṭaṇa-vinī(ni)rgata-kāmvalya-varaya-ghōsa(shah) ||⁷ ma(a)nēka-jaya-jayā(ya)-sadva¹¹-prachaṇḍa-
- 7 daṇḍi-
- 8 ta[h*]||⁷ mā(ma)hārājādhirāja-paramēśvara-para¹²mabhaṭṭāraka- śrī-rājā Indravarmadēva[h*] kusha(śa)-

¹ *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. I, pp. 448-49.

² I am wholly indebted to Rao Bahadur K. N. Dikshit, M.A., F.R.A.S. B., for this identification.

³ Expressed by a symbol.

⁴ Read *gurōh*.

⁵ Read *śasāṅka*.

⁶ Read *dharaśya*.

⁷ The sign of punctuation is unnecessary. The sign somewhat resembles the modern Nāgari letter *ga* without the top bar.

⁸ Read *Mahēndr-āchala*.

⁹ This *visarga* is not required ; read *traya*.

¹⁰ Read *ānuraṅjit-āśēsha*.

¹¹ Read *śabda*.

¹² This *ra* appears below the line.

INDIAN MUSEUM PLATES OF GANGA INDRAVARMAN.

i.



ii, a.



iii, a.



ii, b.



iii, b.



9 li śrī-**Prithivi(vi)varmasya(ṇaḥ)** śu(su)taḥ Paṭaṇī¹-khaṇḍa-viśaḥ(yē)||²

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 10 yathā-kāl-ādhyāsi-mahāsāmanta ||³ -śrī-sāmanta ||³ -rājanaka-rā[ja*]putra-kumara(mārā)-
||³
11 mātṛ-utpari⁴-daṇḍanāyaka-vishayapati-gā(grā)mapati(tin)||³ anyā(nyām)ś=cha chāṭa-
bhā(bha)ṭa-
12 sāmanta-rāṭtrakuta-kutumvina⁵ ||³ janapadāṇa(dān) samādisha(śa)ti viditam=astu
13 bhavatā[m*] ētad-vishaya-samandha⁶=grāmō=ya[m*] ||³ **Bhēṭhiśringō** nāma sa-jala-
sthal-ārā-
14 nya⁷ chatuḥ-si(sī)m-ōpa-adhasrōtra-sahitēna | lakshitañ(taś)⁸=cha ||³ Ara⁹paduṇi-grā-
15 m-ārdhdha(rddha)-Pārāpadra-khātādi-khāmabhāra-samitēna ||³ tasya madhē¹⁰ bhu(bhū)mi-
dasa(śa)kaidi-
16 mēkaṁ-nēcha¹¹ śrī-Lōkamādhavasya¹² datta¹³ ||³ apara-ardhdha-ansa¹⁴-bhaṭṭāraka-
Svayambhukē-
17 sarasya¹⁵ ||³ apara-ardhdha-ansa¹⁴ vrāhmaṇānāñ=cha¹⁶ || śrī-Gōsvā(svā)maṇikasya jē(jyē)-
shṭhapu-
18 traḥ śrī-Gāṅga-Svayambhukasya rūgni¹⁷ śrī-Ēlā ||³ tasya dharma-kīrti[r]-jagati

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 19 paristhāpitam=nēcha¹⁸ ||³ ih=aiva Phālguṇa-māsa-sulka¹⁹-paksha -chaturdaśi(sī) ||³
parilī —
20 kshitaṁ=nēcha²⁰ ||³ mātā-pitō(trō)r-ātmaṇś=cha ||³ punyā(ṇya)-pavardhayōḥ²¹ sha(sa)lila-
dhārā-puraḥsa-

¹ [The letter read as *ta* looks more like *dra* or *du*. The name of the *vishaya* may thus be *Paṭraṇi* or *Paduṇi*, more probably the latter which also occurs below in line 14 as the name of a village. See below f. n. 9.—B. C. C.]

² *Daṇḍas* unnecessary. There is a symbol after the *dandas*, which resembles the symbol of *ōm* in the beginning.

³ The sign of punctuation is unnecessary. The sign somewhat resembles the modern Nāgarī letter *ga* without the top bar.

⁴ Read *-ōparika-*.

⁵ Read *rāṣṭrakūṭa-kuṭumbinaḥ*.

⁶ Read *sambaddha*.

⁷ Read *-āraṇyaś-*.

⁸ Possibly we have to read *chatuḥ-sīm-ōpalakshitaḥ*. [The reading *adhasrōtra* obviously corresponds to *adhaś=ch=ōrdhva*.—B. C. C.]

⁹ This *ra* appears below the line. [Can it be that the intended reading is *aparaṁ Paduṇi-grām-ārdha*—etc. ? See above f. n. 8.—B. C. C.]

¹⁰ Read *madhyē*.

¹¹ Read *mēkaṁ cha*. [Can the intended reading be *ēk-āmśaḥ* ? —B. C. C.]

¹² Read *Lōkamādhavāya*.

¹³ Read *dattaḥ*.

¹⁴ Read *apar-ārdh-āmśaḥ*.

¹⁵ Read *-śvarāya*.

¹⁶ Read *brāhmaṇēbhyaś=cha*.

¹⁷ Read *rājñi*.

¹⁸ Read *pratiśthāpitāś=cha*.

¹⁹ Read *śukla*.

²⁰ Read *parlikhitañ=cha*.

²¹ Read *pravardhayē*.

- 21 rēṇa¹ ||² chandr-ārka-sthiti-sama-kāla[m] a-kari(rī)-kṛitya pratipāditō=smābhihṛ-yatam³ ||²
- 22 śāsana-darashanā[ta]ḥ dharma-gaura⁴vāt=asmād-gauravā cha⁵ ||² na kēna=chipta(t=pa)-ripanthina(nā)
- 23 bhavivya⁶ || tathā cha paṭhyatē dharma-shā(śā)strē Va(Ba)hubhiḥ[r](bhir)=vaśu(su)dhā datā⁷ rājāna⁸ Sagar-ādi-
- 24 bhiḥ [h*] yasya yasya yadā bhu(bhū)mi[h*] ||² tasya tasya tadā phalam(lam) || Mā bhuya (bhūd=a)phala-sam(śa)ñkā va[h*]
- 25 para-datāti⁹ pāṛthivā[h*]¹⁰ || Sha(Sva)-datām(ttām) para-datām=vā(ttām vā) yō harēti(ta) vashu(su)ndharā[m*] | śa(sa) viśṭhāyā[m*]
- 26 kṛimi[r=*] bhu(bhū)tvā piṭribhi[h*] saha pachyatē || Śasṭhim=varisha(Shasṭim varsha)-śa(sa)haśrā(srā)ṇi śvargam(svargē) mōdati bhu(bhū)-
- 27 mida[h*] | a(ā)kshēptā ch= ānumantya(ntā) dhā(cha) [tāny*=] ē¹¹va narakaṁ vrajētaḥ(t) [h*] śva(sva)-dānāt=phalam kuryā-pa¹²

Third Plate ; First Side.

- 28 para-datā(tt-ā)nupālanam [||] Bhu(Bhū)mi[m*] yaḥḥ(yaḥ) pratigrihnā(hṇā)ti tasya¹³ bhu(bhū)mi[m] prayachchhati [h*]
- 29 ubhaū(bhau) tau punya(ṇya)-karmāṇau nī(ni)yatau śva(sva)rga-gāminau || atham(Yas=tu) hārayatē bhu(bhū)mi[m*]
- 30 mandavudhi(buddhis=)tamā(mō)vṛitā(taḥ) [h*] sa vadhō¹⁴ vāruṇai[h*] pāsai(śaiḥ) tiryā¹⁵ -yōnyāñ=cha jāyatē || A-
- 31 nyāya(yē)na hari(hṛi)tā bhu(bhū)mir=anyāyēna tu hāritā || hāratē hārayamtañ=cha¹⁶ dahaty =ā
- 32 shatparimam(saptamam) kulam || Iti kamala-dal-āmvu(mbu)-vimḍum(bindu)-lōlā[m] śrī(śri)yam=anu-
- 33 chintā(ntyā) [ma*]nusya(shya)-ji(jī)vitam cha | sakalam=idam=udahri(dāhṛi)tam [cha*] vudhā(buddhvā) na hi purushai[h*] pa[ra*]-kirtayō
- 34 vilōpyā[h*] likshī(khi)tam=idam mahāsam(sa)ndhivigrahi-śrī-Sāmantēna || utkirna-(tkīrṇa) -

¹ Read *purahsaram*.

² The sign of punctuation is unnecessary. The sign somewhat resembles the modern Nāgari letter *ga* without the top bar.

³ Read *bhir=yataḥ*.

⁴ This *ra* appears below the line.

⁵ Read *darśanād=dharma-gauravād=asmad-gauravāch=cha*.

⁶ Read *bhavitavyam*.

⁷ Read *danā*.

⁸ Read *rājabhiḥ*.

⁹ Read *para-datt=ēti*.

¹⁰ Second half of the verse missing here but occurs in ll. 27-28.

¹¹ This *ē* is initial.

¹² Read *phalam-ānantyam* as found in many instances. This half of the verse should occur in l. 25, as noticed above.

¹³ Read *yas=cha*.

¹⁴ Read *baddhō*.

¹⁵ Read *tiryag*.

¹⁶ Read *haratō hārayataś=cha*.

35 ñ=chaḥ¹ śāsanah² kāṁsa(sya)kāra- śrēshṭhi -śrī -Sāmanta- Śva(Sva)yambhunā Napaḥ³
shu(su)tēna ||

36 lāñchhitam(ta)ñ=cha śrī Gōśvā(svā)miṇikēna || tachharvam⁴ pramāṇam=iti || [chha] ||

Third Plate ; Second Side.

37 Bhaṭṭaputra Kēśava || apara Dāupa || punaḥ Śō(Sō)mapā || punaḥ Viṭhu ||

38 punuḥ(naḥ) Madhusā(sū)dana || punuḥ(naḥ) Dhanaśarma || apara Bhaṭṭaputra-vāstavya-
Gaṇapati ||

39 Bhṛigudēvaś=cha || apara Dēvasha(śa)rma || apara Savarapaḥ || Durgakhaṇḍi ||
ēbhi(bhyō)

40 brāhmaṇēbhō(bhyō) datam(ttam) || o ||

No. 24.—A BUDDHIST TRACT IN A STONE INSCRIPTION IN THE CUTTACK MUSEUM.

By A. GHOSH, M.A., PATNA.

The **stone-slab** containing the following inscription is housed in the Provincial Museum of Orissa, Cuttack. Professor G. S. Das, the Secretary of the Museum, informs me that there is no record in the Museum to show the findspot of the inscription or the year of its discovery. My thanks are due to Professor Das for his permission to edit the inscription in the pages of this journal.

The **inscription** is engraved on both sides of a slab of stone, 1'6"×1'2"×4", there being 11 lines on the obverse and 10 on the reverse. The **letters** are neatly and clearly engraved, their average size being $\frac{7}{8}$ ". The **characters** belong to about the tenth century A. D. and do not call for any special remarks. As regards **orthography**, attention may be drawn to (1) the use of the *avagraha* sign in *likhitvā=bhyaṁtaram* (l. 12); (2) the non-duplication of the consonant after the superscript *r* in *sarva* (l. 2 et passim), *mārga* (l. 6), *dharma* (l. 17), *āntarya* (l. 19); contrast, however, *chūrṇa* (l. 15); (3) the use of *anusvāra* for the class-nasal in *mantra* (l. 7), *abhyāntaram* (l. 12), *gaṁdha* (l. 14), *bhavaṁti* (l. 16), *saṁgha* (l. 17), *Ānanda* (ll. 18 and 21), *maṁda* (l. 18) and *āntarya* (l. 19); and (4) the use of *v* for *b* throughout.

The **text** of the inscription is a quotation of some Buddhist *dhāraṇī* followed by a discourse on the use and virtues of the *dhāraṇī*. The tract purports to have been uttered by the Buddha himself to his disciple Ānanda, though I have not succeeded in locating it in the Buddhist texts that I have consulted. It is said in the text that the *dhāraṇī* should be written and thrown inside a *chaitya*, by which act one acquires the virtue of erecting a lac of *Tathāgata-chaityas*. We have archæological evidence that this practice of enshrining sacred texts was followed all over India. At Nālandā, for instance, besides some bricks inscribed with the *Pratītyasamutpāda-sūtra*⁵ or its shorter version *yē dharmā*, etc., there have been found a large number of terracotta tablets bearing on them the text of some *dhāraṇī*⁶. The minuteness

¹ *Visarga* is superfluous. Read °ñ=cha.

² Read *śāsanam*.

³ Are we to read *Nripa*? [This Napa may be identical with Napa, the engraver of the Tokkai plates of Anantavarman; see below p. 176, text l. 25.—Ed.]

⁴ Read *tat=sarvam*.

⁵ Above, Vol. XXI, pp. 194 ff.; Vol. XXIV, pp. 20ff.

⁶ Cf. *An. Rep. Arch. Surv., Eastern Circle*, 1915-16, p. 36.

of the characters on these tablets often forbid an accurate decipherment of the inscriptions. But on examining some of them on which the inscriptions are somewhat clear, I found that at least two give the same *dhāraṇī* as is contained in the present inscription, together with a few extra lines at the beginning and at the end.¹

The practice of immuring sacred objects including inscribed religious texts inside votive *stūpas* took a somewhat different form in some Buddhist sites. At Nālandā and Paharpur², for instance, hoards of lumps of clay, encasing two plaques with figures of Buddha, Tārā, etc., or inscribed with the Buddhist formula, have been found within the core of single votive *stūpas*. The origin of this custom seems to be explained by a passage in the *Divyāvadāna*³ in which the Buddha enumerates the different ways of worshipping a *chaitya*, viz., by circumambulation, throwing a lump of clay, placing a heap of *mukta*-flowers, putting a garland, dedicating a lamp and anointing with perfumes.

TEXT.

Obverse.

- 1 धर धर । हर हर । प्रहर प्रहर । महावो(बो)धिचित्तधरे ।
- 2 चुलु चुलु । शतरश्मिसंचोदिते । सर्वतथागताभि-
- 3 षेकाभिषिक्ते । गुणगणमते । बु(बु)द्गुणावहासे ।
- 4 मिलि मिलि । गगनतलप्रतिष्ठिते । नभस्तले । श-
- 5 म शम । प्रशम प्रशम । सर्वपापप्रशमने । सर्व-
- 6 पापविशोधने । हुलु हुलु । महावो(बो)धिमार्गसंप्रस्थि-

¹ The tablets referred to here are two of the six hundred tablets that were found together in 1915-16 in Stūpa Site No. 2 and are now in the Archaeological Museum at Nālandā, bearing the register numbers 2-42 and 2-193. The text of the former is given below :

- 1 ōm namō bhagavatē vipula-vadana-kāñchan-ākshi-
- 2 pta-prabhāsa-kē(?)tu-pūrvva-tathāgatāya namō bhagava-
- 3 tō Sākya-munayē tathāgatāy=ārhatē samyak-samvubuddhāya
- 4 tad-yathā ōm vō(bō)dhi vō(bō)dhi vō(bō)dhi sarva-tathāgata-gōchara dhara
- 5 hara hara prahara prahara mahā-vō(bō)dhi-chitta-dharē chulu chulu śata-raśmi-sam-
- 6 chōditē sarva-tathāgat-ābhishiktē guṇa-gaṇa-matē vu(bu)ddha-guṇ-āvahā-
- 7 ēē mili mili gagana-tala-sarva-tathāgat-ādhishtitē na-
- 8 bhas-talē śama śama sarva-pāpa-praśamanē sarva-pāpa-viśōdhanē
- 9 hulu hulu mahā-vō(bō)dhi-mārga-samprasthitē sarva-tathāgata-pratishṭhita-
- 10 suddhē svāhā sarva-tathāgata-vyavalōkitē jaya jaya svā-
- 11 hā huru huru jaya-mukhē svāhā ēka-chaitya-kritēna
- 12 lakshā(ksham) kṛitā bhava[m]ti pratītya-samutpādātā
- 13 five illegible letters, followed by a symbol denoting *raja*.

The portions italicized above are somewhat different from the corresponding portions of the text appearing in the stone inscription edited here. No. 2-193 gives the same text in 11 lines, the only difference being that the word *dhara* (l. 4 above) is repeated twice and that after *jaya-mukhē* (l. 11 above) it repeats the Buddhist formula *yē dharmā*, etc., instead of the portion beginning with *ēka-chaitya-kritēna*.

² *Excavations at Paharpur*, Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India, No. 55, p. 83.

³ *Divyāvadāna*, ed. Cowell and Neil, pp. 78-79.

Obverse.

१ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 २ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ३ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ४ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ५ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ६ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ७ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ८ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ९ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १० ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

Reverse.

१२ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १३ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १४ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १५ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १६ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १७ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १८ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १९ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 २० ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

- 7 ते । सर्वतथागतप्रतिष्ठितशुद्धे स्वाहा ॥ मूलमंत्रः । स-
 8 र्वतथागतगोचरव्यवलीकिते जय जय स्वाहा । हृदये । हु-
 9 रु हुरु जयमुखे स्वाहा । उपहृ[द*]यं [॥*] यः कश्चिद्भिन्नुर्वा
 10 भिन्नुर्वा वा उपासको वा उपासिका वा । अन्यो वा । शः(यः?)
 11 क[श्चित्] आहः¹ कुले पुत्रो वा कुले दुहिता वा² ———

Reverse.

- 12 [इ]मां धारणी[] []लिखित्वाऽभ्यंतरं प्रक्षिप्य चैत्य[] क-
 13 [रि]ष्यति ।³ तेनैकेन चैत्येन कृतेन लक्षं तथागत-
 14 चैत्यानां कृतं भवति । ते च चैत्या[.*] सर्वगंधपुष्पधूप-
 15 चूर्णचावर⁴च्छत्रध्वजपताकाभिदि⁵रूपकरणैः पू-
 16 जिता भवन्ति । न केवलं चैत्यमेवमपि तु बु(बु)द्धरत्नं ध-
 17 र्मरत्नं संघरत्नं चैवविधैरुपकरणैः पूजितं भवति ।
 18 एवम्(न्म)यानंदं संक्षिप्तेन देशितं मंदपुण्यानां अयु⁶
 19 रि—शुद्धानां मिथ्यादृष्टिवैमतिकाना(नां) यानांतर्य-
 20 कारिणां अल्पायुष्काणां⁷ नरकतिर्य[.*]ग्योनियमलोकपरा-
 21 यणानां सत्वा(त्त्वा)नामर्था(?)य य—सा(?)मानंदं गृहस्था[नां*?] [॥*]

TRANSLATION.

(Ll. 9-21)⁸ Whichever person, (be he) a monk or a nun or a male lay-worshipper or a female lay-worshipper or any son of a noble family or a daughter of a noble family having faith, constructs a *chaitya* after having written this *dhāraṇī* and thrown it inside—by the construction of that single *chaitya*, a lac of *Tathāgata-chaityas* will have been constructed by him.

¹ Read कश्चिद्वाहः.

² Read कुलपुत्री वा कुलदुहिता वा.

³ *Dandā* unnecessary.

⁴ Read °चामर°

⁵ Read °पताकादिभि°

⁶ Read °पुण्यानामयु° [Intended reading seems to be °m=aparīśuddhānām. The letter after *ri* seems to be a malformed *śu* scord out.—Ed.]

⁷ Read °कारिणामल्पायुष्काणां

⁸ Lines 1-9 give the text of the *dhāraṇī* which it is not possible to translate.

Those *chaityas* are worshipped with the accessories of all perfumes, flowers, incenses, powders, *chouries*, umbrellas, flags, banners, etc. Not only a *chaitya*, but the Jewel of the Buddha, the Jewel of the Law, and the Jewel of the Order are worshipped with such accessories. O Ānanda, thus has been indicated in brief by me, for the sake of persons who have small virtues,who are of a wrong disposition due to false sight, who create obstacles (?) in the Vehicle, who have a short life, whose refuge is in hell, in a birth as a lower animal or in the world of Yama, (and) O Ānanda,(of?) householders.

No. 25.—TEKKALI PLATES OF ANANTAVARMAN ; GANGA YEAR 353.

By R. K. GHOSHAL, M. A., CALCUTTA.

The plates forming the subject of the present paper were received for examination by the Superintendent for Epigraphy, Madras, from the Rājā Bāhādur of Tekkali in the Ganjām District of Madras, in whose ownership they lie at present. They were noticed in the *Annual Report on South Indian Epigraphy*¹ for the year 1935-36. I now edit the inscription for the first time from ink-impressions kindly supplied by Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra, Assistant Superintendent for Epigraphy in charge of the office of the Government Epigraphist for India.

According to the information kindly supplied by the office of the Government Epigraphist, these are **three sheets** of copper measuring approximately 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ " by 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ ". Towards the proper right end of each plate, there is a **ring-hole**, about $\frac{1}{8}$ " in diameter, through which the plates slide on to a copper **ring** about $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter. The ends of the ring are soldered on to the protruding bottom of a small circular **seal** about $\frac{7}{8}$ " in diameter. It bears in relief on a counter-sunk surface the figure of a bull facing proper left. The **weight** of the plates along with the ring and the seal is 57 *tolas*.

The **characters** belong to the Southern class of alphabets with a sprinkling of northern forms here and there. They generally resemble those of the Alamaṇḍa plates of Anantavarman², the Chicacole plates of Satyavarman³ and the Indian Museum plates of Dēvēndravarmā⁴. An important palaeographic feature of the present inscription is that some of the letters show two alternative forms: such, for example, are *n* (Cf. *bhavana* and *anēka*, l. 4), *bh* as in *prabha* (l. 9) and *bhavana* (l. 4), *m* as in *amara* (l. 1) and *chūdāmaṇi* (l. 5), *v* as in *vara* (l. 10) and *vinaya* (l. 12), and *s* as in *samasta* (l. 9). The conjunct *śrī* in l. 16 (in both cases) is also noteworthy.

Among **orthographical features** worth noticing are the following: (1) both *s* and *ś* have been promiscuously used throughout, (2) medial signs like *ā* and *ē* have often been omitted, (3) consonants before or after *r* are occasionally doubled, and (4) *anusvāra* or *visarga* have been left out in a large number of cases.

The **language** is Sanskrit⁵; with the exception of a verse and a half coming at the end, the whole of the record is in prose. The composition is extremely faulty. There are altogether three plates of which the first and the third are engraved on their inner sides only, while the second one bears writing on both of its faces. Each of the inscribed plates, except the last one

¹ No. 3 of 1935-36; pp. 5 and 59 ff.

² Above, Vol. III, pp. 17 ff. and plate.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 10 ff. and plate.

⁴ Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 73 ff. and plate.

⁵ Stray cases of vernacularisation such as *savachhrara* (l. 23), *athavanāsād* (l. 24) or *śilōkā* (l. 26) that occur are a far too common feature of inscriptions of this age from Kalinga.

which has eight lines, contains seven lines of writing, the complete record thus running to twenty-nine lines. Both the scribe and the engraver have executed their work very carelessly. The inscription is however on the whole in a good state of preservation.

The **inscription** apparently records the gift of the village of **Siñicharaṇa** (no district has been mentioned) to a Brāhmaṇa called Viṭhubhaṭa (Viṣṇubhaṭṭa), son of Harichandra, belonging to the Śāṇḍilya *gōtra*. The donor was the king **Anantavarman**, son of *Mahūrāja* Dēvēndravarman, who belonged to the Gaṅga *kula*. The gift, which was issued from Kalinganagara, was made on the occasion of a solar eclipse.

The writer of the record was the *Sāmanta* Mūṭṭisiri and the engraver was the *Akṣhaśālin* Napa.

The **date** given (in words) is the Year 358 of the prosperous victorious reign of the Gaṅgas.

The chief interest of the present record lies in the date and the personality of its donor. As has been mentioned above, the record belongs to Anantavarman, son of Dēvēndravarman, and is dated in the Gaṅga Year 358. This date precludes any possibility of identifying the father of the donor of the present record with any other person than Dēvēndravarman, father of Satyavarman. For the last-named, we have an inscription dated in the Year 351¹ of the Gaṅga era. This last date again is fairly near to that of our inscription, viz., 358. I, therefore, suggest that Anantavarman of the present inscription was a brother² of Satyavarman of the Chicacole plates. This satisfactorily adjusts the date of the inscription and finds a place for its donor in the Gaṅga pedigree in the following fashion :

³Dēvēndravarman (III)

Satyavarman (Year 351)	Anantavarman (III) (Year 358)
------------------------	----------------------------------

Of the **localities** mentioned, Kalinganagara occurs frequently in inscriptions of Gaṅga kings. It has generally been identified with modern Kalingapatam or with Mukhalingam. I am however unable at present to locate the village granted.

Palaeographically, the Tekkali plates of Anantavarman may be referred to the **third quarter of the 9th century A.D.**

TEXT.⁴

First Plate.

1 Ōm⁵ Svasty(ti) [||*] Amarapur-ānukāriṇa[h*] śa(sa)rv-artu-sukha-rama-
2 ṇi(ṇi)yād=viṇayavata[h*] **Kalinganagarādhdivaśaka**⁶ Mahē-

¹ I follow the revised reading reported (D. R. Bhandarkar, *A List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, p. 203 and f. n. 4) to have been suggested to Dr. E. Hultzsch by Mr. Ramamurti, viz., -śata-tray-aikapañchāśa(śa). The palaeography of the inscription absolutely contradicts such an early date as the Year 151 as suggested (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, p. 12, text, 35) by Dr. J. F. Fleet. This seems to me to be a definite case of remissness on the part of both the engraver and the scribe.

² [This relationship has already been pointed out in the *An. Rep. on S.-I. Epigraphy*, 1935-36, p. 6.—Ed.]

³ Dēvēndravarman, the father of Satyavarman, and, as I have shown, also of Anantavarman of the present record, has variously been called as D° III or D° IV (see, above, Vol. XXIII, p. 75 and f. n. 7). In my genealogical scheme, I have followed D. R. Bhandarkar (*List*, p. 386, column 2, No. 14) and R. D. Banerji (*History of Orissa*, Vol. I, p. 234) in taking Dēvēndravarman of our inscription as D° III and his son as Anantavarman III.

⁴ From ink-impressions.

⁵ Denoted by a symbol.

⁶ The intended reading seems to be *Kalinganagar-ādhivāsakāt*. The word *adhivāsaka* should, however, be corrected into *vāsaka*.

- 3 dr(nder)-ācha[l-ā]mala-si(śi)khara-pratiṭi(śhṭhi)taśi(sya) sa-chara(rā)cha[ra*]-
 4 gurō[h*] sakala-bha(bhu)vana-nirmma-anēka¹-sūtra-
 5 dhārasī(sya) śasā(śā)ṅka-chu(chū)ḍāma²ṇi-bhagava-
 6 tō Gōkarnnasamīna³=charaṇa-kamala-ju(yu)gala-
 7 praṇama(ṇāmā)d=vigata-kali-kāla-kalaṅka[h*] anēk-ā-

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 8 bava-sachhō(ṅkshō)bha-janita-jaya-sanda⁴ pratāpa(p-ā)vana-
 9 ta-samasta(sta)-samasta⁵-śama⁶-chakrē(kra)-chūḍḍaṇi⁷-prabba⁸(bhā)-ma-
 10 ṇjari(rī)-puja(ṇja)-raṇjita-vara-charaṇa[h*] sita-kumuda-
 11 kudēdvu(nd-ēndv-a)vadāta-yashē(śā) dhvaśt-arati⁹-kula(l-ā)cha-
 12 lō naya-vinaya-daya(yā)-dāna-dāṇchakshinya-sarja-
 13 dārjya-śati-tyōg-adhvi¹⁰-guṇa-saṁpadā[m=ā*]dbāra-bhū-
 14 tō(taḥ) paramamāhēśvarō ma(mā)tā-pitri(tri)-

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 15 pād-ānudhvā(dhyā)[tō] Gaṅg-āmala-kula-tilakō mahāra(rā)-
 16 ja-śrī-Dēvētra(ndra)varmma-sūnu-śrī-Anantavarmma-
 17 dēvaṇa(vēna) udaka-pūrvra(rvva)[m*] kṛitvā sūrjya(ryya)-grab-ōpara(rā)gē
 18 sapradata¹¹ | ¹²Kāṇḍilya-gōtra-Harichandra-sū-
 19 nu-Viṭhubhaṭṭa(na) upā[r*]jitaṁ vā[i?] |
 20 Siṇicharaṇa-gra(grā)mō=¹³ya[m*] rō[ka?]-kuṭuvina¹⁴
 21 ..i sada-bala-bhūmi-chaturaṅghaṭa(r-āghāṭa)-¹⁵chbēda-

Third Plate.

- 22 si(śi)l-āṅkitaṁ tatākēna śa(sa)hita[m*] | Ga[n*]gōya-va[m*]-
 23 śa-pravadhvamāna-vijutya¹⁶-rājya-savachhrara¹⁷-sa(śa)ta-
 24 rtrīṇi-aṭhavanāsād¹⁸ || likhitam=idam Mātṛisiri-śa-
 25 matēna¹⁹ | utkirṇam²⁰ akhasālina²¹ Napēṇa | ada-

¹ Read -nirmmāṇa-aika-.

² Note the northern form of m.

³ Read Gōkarnnasamīnaś=.

⁴ Read -śabdaḥ.

⁵ The word samasta is repeated needlessly.

⁶ Read -sāmanta-.

⁷ Read -chūḍḍaṇi-.

⁸ Note the northern form of bh.

⁹ Read dhvast-ārāti-.

¹⁰ Read -dākshinya-śaury-audāryya-satya-tyāg-ādi-.

¹¹ Read sampradattaḥ.

¹² This might be restored as Śāṇḍilya rather than as Kaṇḍīya.

¹³ The letter ya was subsequently inserted, rather below the line of writing.

¹⁴ Read kuṭumbinaḥ. [Reading may be Rō[kū]kuṭuvina dui-sada, etc., i.e. in addition to the village, the gift seems to have consisted of 200 *halas* of land belonging to the cultivator Rōkū (?) and also a *taṭāka*.]

The name of the village appears to be Vāisīnīcharaṇa. In fact the mark after Vāi would show that the word is meant to be continued in the next line. Perhaps it was meant to be an agrahāra village which was mostly inhabited by the Brahmins of the White Yajurveda belonging to the Vājasaneyi charaṇa.—Ed.]

¹⁵ This word appears to have been engraved somewhat above the proper line of writing.

¹⁶ Read -pravarddhamāna-vijaya-.

¹⁷ Read -samvatsara-.

¹⁸ Read -tray-āṣṭapañchāśat, or better -trayaṁ s-āṣṭapañchāśat.

¹⁹ Read -sāmantēna-.

²⁰ Read utkirṇam.

²¹ Read akhasālina.

i.
 2
 4
 6
 8
 10
 12
 14

ii.b.
 16
 18
 20
 22
 24
 26
 28

iii.a.
 8
 10
 12
 14

iii.
 22
 24
 26
 28

- 26 na acham || vātōtapi | Vyā(vyā)sa-gītā-silōkā bhuvati¹ [[*]
 27 ²Yaśya(sya) yaśya(sya) yada(dā) bhūmi tasi(s-tasya) tasya tadā phala[m*] [~] ³śa-lata
 28 para-datarm=vā⁴ yō harēti(ta) vasu[n*]dharā[m*] [[*] sa viṭhayā⁵ krimi-
 29 ri putvā⁶ pitribhi[h*] śa(sa)ba da(pa)chyatē (.)

No. 26.—DONGARGAON STONE INSCRIPTION OF THE TIME OF JAGADDEVA : SAKA 1034.

BY PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A., NAGPUR.

In October 1939 Mr. M. G. Deshmukh, M.A., my former student and a research scholar of the Nagpur University, told me about a stone inscription at **Ḍōṅgargāon**, a village about 10 miles from Pusaḍ in the Yeotmal District of Berar. I gave him the necessary materials for taking an estampage of the record. He copied it with the assistance of Mr. Tatvavadi, Tahasildar of Pusaḍ. His estampage, though not perfect, was sufficiently clear to show that it was a record of the time of the Paramāra prince Jagaddeva, which had not been noticed in the late Rai Bahadur Dr. Hiralal's *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*. I published a short note on its contents and historical importance in the local papers in February 1940. As the estampage taken by Mr. Deshmukh was not sufficiently good for reproduction, I requested the Government Epigraphist for India to copy the record for me. In compliance therewith Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra kindly supplied me with excellent estampages from which I edit the record here.

Ḍōṅgargāon is, as its name signifies, situated on a hill. There are two old temples here, one of which is in a fair state of preservation. The other one is very much dilapidated. Its *maṇḍapa* alone is now standing, the *garbhagṛiha* having fallen into ruins. The present inscription is incised on the architrave of the door of the old *garbhagṛiha* of this temple. The writing covers a space 4' 3½" broad and 7½" high, and consists of eight lines. It has suffered a good deal by exposure to weather, some *aksharas* in the first and last lines and at either end of the remaining ones having now become almost illegible. Besides, the stone was not originally well dressed and the technical execution of the record also is not satisfactory. It is, however, possible to read with patience and perseverance almost the whole of it except about a dozen *aksharas* which have become altogether illegible in lines 1, 5, 7 and 8. The **characters** are Nāgarī, regular for the period to which the record refers itself. The size of the letters is '7" in the first six lines, but is reduced to '6" in the seventh line and to '5" in the eighth for want of space. Worthy of note is the use of double *prishṭha-mātrās* in several places. In other inscriptions of the same period, one of the two *mātrās* denoting the medial *ai* and *au* is usually placed on the top of a letter, while the other becomes a *prishṭha-mātrā*. This is noticed in the present inscription also in *puṇy-ūlayāy=aitat* in l. 7. But in all other cases both the *mātrās* of the medial *ai* and *au* appear as *prishṭha-mātrās*.⁷ In many cases the letters *p* and *y* as well as

¹ Read *ślōkā bhavanti*.² The engraver has carelessly left out the first half of this oft-repeated verse, viz., *Edubhira=rasadhi* ... *rājabhāṣa Sagur-ādibhih*.³ Read *Sen-dattām*.⁴ Read *dattām vā*.⁵ Read *viśṭhāyām*.⁶ Read *krimir=bhūtā*.⁷ I have noticed a similar use of double *prishṭha-mātrās* in an old Marāṭh manuscript of the Marāṭh ... set from Berar.

t and *n* have closely similar forms; *b*, as distinguished from *v*, is indicated in one place by a rectangular sign almost identical with that for *p*, see *babhūva*, l. 2; in all other cases, it is denoted by the sign for *v*. The sign of the *avagraha* occurs twice in l. 4. The language is Sanskrit and the record is, on the whole, correctly written. It evinces here and there the poet's fondness for alliteration. Except for the customary obeisance to Śiva in the beginning and the usual imprecation, the particulars of the date and the name of the writer at the end, the inscription is metrically composed throughout. It contains fourteen verses, all of which are numbered. The orthography shows the usual peculiarities of the reduplication of a consonant following *r* and the use of *v* for *b*.

The inscription belongs to the reign of the Paramāra prince Jagaddēva. The object of it is to record that Jagaddēva granted the village *Ḍoṅgaragrāma* to the Brāhmaṇa Śrinivāsa and that the latter erected there a temple which he dedicated to Śiva for the religious merit of his father Śrinidhi. The inscription was written by Viśvasvāmin. The date is given in the last line as the full-moon *tithi* of Chaitra in the Śaka year 1034 (expressed in decimal figures only), the cyclic year being Nandana. This date corresponds to Friday, the 15th March A. D. 1112. It does not admit of verification, but it may be noted that the cyclic year corresponding to the expired Śaka year 1034 was Nandana according to the southern lunisolar system. This is the only dated record of the reign of Jagaddēva and the only Paramāra inscription found in Berar. Another inscription¹ of Jagaddēva's reign was discovered some years ago at Jainad in the Adilābād District of the Nizam's Dominions, but it is undated.

By way of introduction the inscription gives the genealogy of the king Jagaddēva. Like other Paramāra records it mentions that the royal family was descended from the eponymous hero Paramāra who was born from the sacrificial fire of Vasishṭha when the latter was enraged by Viśvāmitra forcibly seizing his *kāmadhēnu*. In his family which by its noble warlike deeds surpassed the solar and lunar races, was born Bhōja who resembled Rāma by his noble qualities. We are next told that when the Mālava country sank under the attacks of three enemies, Udayāditya, the brother (*bhrātā*) of Bhōja, came to its rescue. This is the first record in which the relationship of Udayāditya to Bhōja is so clearly stated. Some Paramāra inscriptions² describe Udayāditya as meditating on the feet of Bhōja, but they do not mention how he was related to Bhōja. The Nagpur Museum stone inscription³ dated Vikrama Samvat 1161 has indeed been known for a long time to refer to Udayāditya as a *bandhu* of Bhōja, but as *bandhu* signifies in Sanskrit the sense of a distant relative as well as that of a brother, Udayāditya was supposed by scholars to be remotely related to Bhōja.⁴ The aforementioned Jainad inscription mentions Bhōja as the *pitṛivya* (uncle) and Udayāditya as the father of Jagaddēva. This clearly implies that Udayāditya was a brother of Bhōja, but as a stone inscription⁵ at Udayapur gives an altogether different genealogy for Udayāditya from that of Bhōja, namely, that he was the son of Gyātā, grandson of Gōṇḍala and great-grandson of Śūravīra of the Paramāra family, it was supposed that Udayāditya belonged to a minor branch of the Paramāra clan and was a distant cousin of Bhōja.⁶ The present inscription which uses the word *bhrātā* to indicate the relationship leaves no doubt that Udayāditya was Bhōja's real brother. The evidence of the Udayapur inscription which is a very late record⁷ has to be rejected in view

¹ Above, Vol. XXII, pp. 54 ff.

² See, e.g., the Shergaḍh inscription of Udayāditya, above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 132 ff.

³ Above, Vol. II, pp. 180 ff.

⁴ This view was first expressed by Prof. Kielhorn and has since been adopted by others.

⁵ J. A. S. B., Vol. IX, p. 549.

⁶ Above, Vol. XXII, p. 56.

⁷ It is dated Vikrama Samvat 1562. See D. R. Bhandarkar's *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, No. 134.

of the testimony of three very early documents, viz., the Nagpur Museum, Jainad and Dōngargāon inscriptions.

The present record states in verse 5 that Udayāditya rescued the Mālava country when it was attacked by three kings. The invaders are not specifically mentioned here, but from verse 32 of the Nagpur Museum stone inscription we learn that two of them were Kārṇa and the king of Kārṇāṭa.¹ As I have shown elsewhere,² this Kārṇa was the homonymous Kalachuri king, the son of Gāṅgēyadēva, who ruled from A. D. 1041 to circa 1072. Kārṇa invaded Malwa twice. In this first invasion which occurred soon after the death of Bhōja, his ally was the Chālukya king Bhīma of Gujarāt.³ Jayasīmha, the successor of Bhōja, who was dethroned, solicited the aid of the powerful Chālukya king Sōmēśvara I-Āhavamalla. The latter sent his son Vikramāditya VI who turned back the invaders and reinstated Jayasīmha. About fifteen years later,⁴ Kārṇa again attacked Malwa. The political situation in the Deccan had considerably changed in the meanwhile. Āhavamalla was dead and was succeeded by his eldest son Sōmēśvara II. The latter was, however, apprehensive of his ambitious younger brother Vikramāditya VI and therefore must have readily allied himself with the mighty Kalachuri Emperor Kārṇa and helped him in his invasion of Malwa. This time the allied arms attained greater success. The Nagpur Museum stone inscription states that the lord (*svāmin*), who was plainly the Paramāra king Jayasīmha, was submerged when the Kārṇāṭa king, Kārṇa and other princes joined (one another from different sides) like mighty oceans. Kalachuri inscriptions do not generally mention this event, because they nowhere give a detailed account of Kārṇa's conquests. The recently discovered Rewah stone inscription⁵ of the time of Kārṇa also does not mention it, though it describes Kārṇa's campaigns against other kings, but that is evidently because the event occurred long after A. D. 1048-49 which is the date of that inscription. Kārṇa's extermination of the royal family of Malwa is however mentioned in an Apabhraṁśa verse to which I have drawn attention elsewhere.⁶ The Chālukya records are not altogether silent about this achievement of Sōmēśvara II. The Sudi stone inscription dated Śaka 996 (A.D. 1075) mentions the Chālukya king as 'a blazing fire to the ocean that is the race of the Mālavyas'.

It is nowhere specifically stated who was the third invader of Malwa. But it seems probable that the reference is to the Western Gaṅga chief Udayāditya. From several records⁷ in the Kanarese country we know that this Udayāditya and the valiant Hoysaḥa prince Eṇṇayaṅga joined Sōmēśvara in his attack on Malwa. Eṇṇayaṅga in particular is said to have

¹ Above, Vol. II, p. 185. In verse 32 of this inscription Kielhorn read *mah-irṇṇav-ōpama-milat-Karṇāṭa-Karṇa-prabhum-urvipāla-kadarthutām*. Kielhorn's edition of the inscription is not accompanied by a facsimile of the record, but the late Mr. C. V. Vaidya ingeniously suggested that the correct reading should be *-Karṇāṭa-Karṇa-prabhrity-urvipāla-*. (See his *History of Medieval Hindu India*, Vol. III, pp. 169-70, n.) I have examined the original in the Nagpur Museum. The medial vowel of the *akṣara* following *pra* is clearly *ri*, not *n*, and the following *akṣara* also is *tyu*, not *mu* as read by Kielhorn. It is plain therefore that the Mālava country was invaded by a confederacy of more than two kings.

² Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 107, n. 1.

³ Mērutunga's *Prabandhachintāmaṇi*, tr. by Tawney, pp. 74 ff.

⁴ As shown below, Kārṇa's ally this time was Sōmēśvara II who ascended the throne in Śaka 991. Kārṇa was succeeded by his son Yaśaḥkārṇa in circa A.D. 1072. His campaign in Malwa must therefore be dated in circa A.D. 1070.

⁵ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 101 ff.

⁶ *Loc. cit.*, p. 107.

⁷ D. C. Ganguly, *History of the Paramāra Dynasty* p. 128.

trampled down the Mālava army, plundered the Mālava king's hill fort and burnt and devastated Dhārā. Jayasimha succumbed to this powerful attack and for a time it seemed as if the Paramāra kingdom was completely wiped out. The terrible disaster that befell the Mālava country on this occasion is graphically described in the Nagpur Museum stone inscription which likens it to the catastrophe of world-destruction when mighty oceans sweep over and submerge the earth. In this hour of need Udayāditya, the brother of Bhōja, rose to the occasion. He routed the enemies' forces and rescued the Mālava country just as the Primeval Boar had uplifted the earth at the time of *pralaya*. The latter part of the Udayapur stone inscription of the time of Udayāditya,¹ which has recently been discovered, states that Udayāditya inflicted a crushing defeat on the lord of Dāhala who could have been none other than the Kalachuri Karṇa.

The present inscription states further that though Udayāditya had several sons² he longed to have one more who would be after his heart. He therefore devoutly prayed to Śiva and by the god's favour obtained the son Jagaddēva. After Udayāditya's death, the inscription proceeds to state, Royal Fortune offered herself to Jagaddēva, but he renounced her in favour of his elder brother, being apprehensive of incurring the sin of *parivitti*³ (i.e. marrying before an elder brother marries). Two other sons of Udayāditya are known from inscriptions, viz., Lakshmadēva and Naravarman who succeeded him one after the other. Jagaddēva is mentioned in certain Hoysala records⁴ as the king of Malwa. As his name is not mentioned in other Paramāra inscriptions, he was supposed to be identical with Lakshmadēva⁵ whom the Nagpur Museum stone inscription mentions as the son and successor of Udayāditya. The present inscription, however, makes it plain that Jagaddēva was different from both Lakshmadēva and Naravarman and that, though he could have easily ascended the throne of Malwa, he relinquished it in favour of his elder brother Lakshmadēva.

Jagaddēva was probably the youngest son of Udayāditya. The description in verse 8 suggests that he was a favourite son of his father and was nominated by him as his successor. According to the *Rās Mālā*⁶, Udayāditya had two wives, one of the Wāghelā clan and the other of the Sōlāṅki. The former bore to him a son named Raṇadhavala and the latter Jagaddēva⁷. Raṇadhavala was the elder son and the heir-apparent. Jagaddēva was younger by two years. As Udayāditya was completely under the influence of Raṇadhavala's mother who ill-treated Jagaddēva, the latter left Malwa and took military service under Siddharāja-Jayasimha of Gujarāt. He served him for eighteen years, but when he came to know that Siddharāja was planning an invasion of Malwa, he returned to his native country where he was affectionately welcomed by his father who nominated him as his successor. After his father's death, Jagaddēva ascended the throne of Malwa and ruled for 52 years.

¹ *Annual Report of the Archaeological Department of the Gwalior State* for 1925-26, p. 13. This clearly shows that the king Karṇa who was responsible for the destruction of Jayasimha was the Kalachuri and not the Chaulukya king of that name.

² The text has *ta-ya satsi=api putrēshu* which shows that Udayāditya had at least three sons at the time.

³ *Parivitti* is used here in the sense of *parivēdana*, for the word generally denotes an elder brother who remains unmarried. See *Manusmṛiti*, adhyāya III, v. 171. Manu says that in such cases both the elder and younger brothers, the girl married by the younger brother, the person who gives her in marriage and the officiating priest all go to hell. *Ibid.*, adhyāya III, v. 172.

⁴ See, e.g., *Ep. Carn.*, Vol. II, p. 168.

⁵ D. C. Ganguly, *History of the Paramāra Dynasty*, p. 142.

⁶ *Rās Mālā*, ed. by H. G. Rawlinson, Vol. I, pp. 117 ff.

⁷ The editor of the *Rās Mālā* spells the names as Rindhuvu and Jug Dev.

The foregoing account of Gujarāt bards cannot, of course, be accepted in its entirety, but it is to a certain extent corroborated by the present inscription. The tenor of the description in verse 6, for instance, suggests that Jagaddēva was a half-brother of Lakshmadēva who perhaps bore the *birula* of Raṇadhavala. He seems also to have been nominated by Udayāditya as his successor, but the present inscription leaves no doubt that he never ascended the throne of Malwa¹.

When Jagaddēva relinquished his claim to the throne of Malwa in favour of his elder brother Lakshmadēva, he seems to have gone to Kuntala in search of 'fields and pastures new'. The present inscription states in verse 9 that the king of Kuntala treated Jagaddēva very affectionately. He called him the first among his sons, the lord of his kingdom, his right arm, nay, his very self. This king of Kuntala was plainly the contemporary king of the later Chālukya dynasty who was Vikramāditya VI (A. D. 1076-1126). He seems to have appointed Jagaddēva to govern the country to the north of the Gōdāvarī which he had then recently wrested from the Paramāras. This territory was for some time the battle ground of contending powers. During the time of the Rāshtrakūṭas the Narmadā was apparently the southern boundary of the Paramāra kingdom. When Siyaka attempted to invade the Rāshtrakūṭa territory, he was opposed by Khōttiga, the contemporary Rāshtrakūṭa king, on the bank of the Narmadā². The latter was however defeated by the Paramāra king who followed up his victory and stormed the Rāshtrakūṭa capital Mānyakhēṭa. Subsequently the Gōdāvarī seems to have been fixed as the southern boundary of the Paramāra kingdom. This state of things continued for some time even after the last Rāshtrakūṭa king had been overthrown by Tailapa II, the founder of the later Chālukya dynasty. This appears plain from the account of Mērutuṅga who states that when Tailapa harassed Muṇja by sending raiders into his country and the latter determined to march against him, his prime minister Rudrāditya advised him to make the river Gōdāvarī the utmost limit of his expedition and not to advance beyond it³. After Muṇja was defeated and taken captive, the Chālukyas seem to have advanced northward and conquered much of the territory previously held by the Rāshtrakūṭas, but they were soon driven out by Sindhurāja, the brother and successor of Muṇja. The *Nacasaḥasāṅkucharita* of the Paramāra king's court-poet Padmagupta describes this achievement of Sindhurāja in the following words:— who (*i.e.*, Sindhurāja) with his sword red with missiles recovered his kingdom (*svarājya*) which had been occupied by the lord of Kuntala who overran all directions just as the sun, whose harbinger is Aruṇa, assumes possession of the day that was before enveloped in dense darkness spread in all directions⁴. The *svarājya* recovered by Sindhurāja must have been the southern portion of the Paramāra kingdom including the northern parts of Mahārāshṭra and Vidarbha which had been annexed by Tailapa. Since then we get no Paramāra records from that part of the country. A copper-plate inscription found at Kalvan in the Nāsik District records a grant of land to a Jain sage at the *ūtthā* of Kālākāṭyavara 12 miles west of Kalvan, while the surrounding country was governed by Yaśovarmā, a feudatory of Bhōja⁵. Towards the end of Udayāditya's reign the Chālukya Emperor Vikramāditya VI made an incursion into Vidarbha and occupied parts of it for some time. A gene inscription

¹ The authors of the aforementioned Hoysala inscriptions also had apparently no accurate knowledge of the status of Jagaddēva.

² Above, Vol. XXI, p. 47.

³ *Prabandhaśaṅkṣamāni*, Tawney's tr., p. 33.

⁴ *Nacasaḥasāṅkucharita*, Canto I, v. 74.

⁵ Above, Vol. XIX, pp. 69 ff. The inscription does not indicate any viceroyal state of things as supposed by the editor.

dated Śaka 1008 (A. D. 1087) found at Sitābaldī, a suburb of Nagpur, states that the Rāshṭra-kūṭa Dhādibhaṇḍaka was governing the country as a feudatory of Vikramāditya VI¹. Curiously enough this is also the last known date of Udayāditya's reign. When Jagaddēva came to the court of Vikramāditya VI, he seems to have been placed by the latter in charge of Berar and the northern portion of the Nizam's Dominions. As already stated, there is another inscription of his reign, namely that found at Jainad in the Adilābād District of the Nizam's Dominions. Jainad is only 65 miles almost due east of Dōngargāon.

The territory to the east of the Wardhā river was however soon reconquered by the Paramāras. The Nagpur Museum stone inscription which seems originally to have belonged to Bhāṇḍak in the Chāṇḍā District² mentions that Lakshmadēva, the son and successor of Udayāditya, endowed a temple, evidently at Bhāṇḍak, with the gift of two villages. The surrounding country continued in the possession of Naravarman, the brother and successor of Lakshmadēva, as the Nagpur Museum stone inscription belongs to his reign. It is dated Vikrama Samvat 1161 (A.D. 1104-5), i.e., about eight years before the present inscription of Jagaddēva's reign.

From other records also we know that Jagaddēva was an ally of Vikramāditya and took an active part in his military campaigns. Mērutuṅga states that Jagaddēva, though honoured by Siddha (i.e., Siddharāja-Jayasimha of Gujarāt), was earnestly invited by the glorious king Paramardin and so he went to the country of Kuntala.³ It is well known that Paramardin was a *biruda* of Vikramāditya VI. The Jainad inscription mentions Jagaddēva's victories in Āndhra, Chakradurga and Dōrasamudra which were evidently won in the cause of Vikramāditya VI. Jagaddēva's invasion of Dōrasamudra is attested to by Hoysala inscriptions also. We are told that the Emperor (Vikramāditya VI) sent Jagaddēva at the head of a large Chālukya army to invade the Hoysala country.⁴ He penetrated as far as Dōrasamudra, the Hoysala capital, but was there defeated by Ballāla I, Vishṇuvardhana and Udayāditya, the valiant sons of the Hoysala king Eṇṇayaṅga.

The self-abnegation, chivalry and liberality of Jagaddēva made him far-famed. 'There is no country, village, world or assembly where Jagaddēva's fame is not sung day and night,' says the present inscription. That this is not an altogether empty praise is shown by the numerous tales about his bravery and munificence which are recorded by Gujarāt chronicles.⁵ The *subhāshita* No. 1261 in the *Śārṅgadharapaddhati* seems to praise the liberality of this very Jagaddēva.

According to the *Rās Mālā* Jagaddēva lived to the age of eighty-five. Before his death he is said to have placed his son Jagaddhavalā on the throne, but no records of his reign have yet come to light. The Paramāras, however, continued to hold parts of the Central Provinces long after the time of Jagaddēva. Their capital was Chāhanda which is probably identical with Chāṇḍā, the chief town of the Chāṇḍā District of the Central Provinces. Two stone inscriptions⁶ found at Ambā near Mōminābād in the Bhīr District of the Nizam's Dominions mention a Paramāra king named Bhōja,⁷ the ruler of Chāhanda, who was defeated by Khōlēsvara, the

¹ Above, Vol. III, pp. 304 ff.

² Hirālāl thought that the inscription originally belonged to Bilhāri, but this is incorrect. See above, Vol. XXIV, p. 117, n. 5. As I have shown there, some of the places mentioned in it can be identified in the Chāṇḍā District.

³ *Prabandhachintāmaṇi*, Tawney's tr., p. 186.

⁴ *Ep. Carn.*, Vol. II, p. 168.

⁵ See, e.g., *Rās Mālā*, Vol. I, pp. 117 ff.; *Prabandhachintāmaṇi*, pp. 186 ff.

⁶ G. H. Khare, *Sources of the Mediaeval History of the Deccan* (Marāṭhi), Vol. I, pp. 64 and 74.

⁷ This Bhōja is different from the homonymous Śilāhāra prince, the ruler of Kolhāpur, who was overthrown by Singhapa. *Bom. Gaz.*, Vol. I, part ii, p. 524.

Left side.



Right side.



general of the Yādava Emperor Siṅghaṇa. One of these inscriptions is dated Śaka 1150 (A.D. 1228-29). Another stone inscription written in old Marāṭhī has been discovered at Bhāṇḍak (called Bhadrapura therein), now a village 16 miles north-west of Chāṇḍā. It records the *gīrṇōddhāra* (renovation) of a temple dedicated to Nāga-Nārāyaṇa. The name of the Rāṇā Pavāra (Paramāra) who was ruling there is now illegible. The inscription contained a date in the Śaka era, but the last two figures of it are now lost owing to the breaking off of the upper right hand corner of the stone. Rai Bahadur Hiralal conjecturally read it as 1308.¹ This is the last record of the Paramāras found in the Central Provinces and Berar.

There is only one place-name in the present inscription, viz., Dōṅgaragrāma which is plainly identical with Dōṅgargāon where the inscription has been found.

TEXT.²

- 1 [ओ³] नमः शिवाय । कुर्वन्वः पातु जगतां प्रभवस्थितिसंज्ञि(हृ)तीः । तिस्रः
 ॐ ॐ ॐ — — ॐ विश्वं यच्च [सु]वर्तकः⁴ । १। अस्यर्वु(र्वु)द इति ख्यातः
 प्रतीच्यां दिशि पर्वतः मेखलाद्यन्तसंचारिकूर्मराजदिवाकरः । २। कामधेनुं
 [हृतवते]
- 2 विश्वामित्राय कुप्यतः । वसिष्ठान्तत्र होमाम्नौ परमारो व्यजायत । ३। तदन्ते⁵
 चचचरितैः पुष्क(ष्प)वन्तान्वयाधिके । बभूव भोजदेवाख्यो राजा रामसमो
 गुणैः । ४। ततो रिपुत्रयस्कन्दैर्मग्नां मालव[मदिनीम्] । उ-
- 3 हरबुदयादित्यस्तस्य भ्राता व्यवर्द्धत । ५। यस्याच्छया दिशाः कीर्त्या भुवनानि
 परैर्गुहाः । [काष्ठाः] परा व(व)लादेव काव्यैर्व्याप्यन्त चार्थितः । ६। तस्य
 सत्सपि पुत्रेषु स्वसम्मतमुतैषिणः । हराराधनतो जज्ञे जगद्देवो म[हौ]-
- 4 पतिः । ७। दिवं प्रयाति पितरि स्वयं प्राप्तामपि श्रियम् । परिवर्त्तिभय्यत्यक्षा
 योऽग्रजाय न्यवेदयत् । ८। पुत्राणामग्र्यमोऽसि राज्यक्षिप्यस्वामी भुजो दक्षिणः
 सर्वास्वेव हरित्सु जङ्गम [इ]-
- 5 यक्षीमा जयो मूर्त्तिमान् । आत्मैवेति च सप्रसादमुदितो यः कुम्भलक्ष्माभृता
 ताद्रूप्यन्दधदेव दक्षिणदिशालङ्कारतां पुष्यति⁶ । ९। अर्थिप्रत्यर्थिनो यस्मिन्वा(न्वा)णैः
 स्वर्णैश्च वर्षति । दैन्यसैन्य[निधिं] मुक्ता — —⁷

¹ In his *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar* Hiralal gives the date as Friday, the 10th of the dark fortnight of Mārgaśīrsha in the Śaka year 13[08] bearing the name Kshaya which he says corresponds to Friday, the 16th November A.D. 1386. But my personal examination of the stone has shown that the reading is incorrect in one respect, viz., that the *tithi* was of the *bright* fortnight. The date, if the reading of the year is correct, would correspond to Friday, the 30th November A.D. 1386.

² From inked stampages.

³ Expressed by a symbol.

⁴ Metre of verses 1—8 : *Anushtubh*.

⁵ Read तदन्ते.

⁶ Metre : *Sārdūlavskṛīṭa*.

⁷ Read तेऽग्र—.

- 6 [ङ्गि]तमुपासते¹ ॥१०॥ न स देशो न स ग्रामो न स लोको न सा सभा ।
न तन्नक्तं दिवं यच्च जगद्देवो न गीयते ॥११॥ आचन्द्रार्कं शासनीकृत्य तेन
क्षमापालेन श्रीजगद्देवनाम्ना । पु[ण्याधारे]² डोङ्गरग्रामनामा ग्रामो दत्तः
श्रीनि[वा]सद्वि-
- 7 जाय³ ॥१२॥ तद्वत्तडोङ्गरग्रामे श्रीनिधेः[ः] श्रेयसां निधेः । विद्यावृत्तनिवासेन
श्रीनिवासेन [सू]नुना⁴ ॥१३॥ पितुः पुण्योदयायैतत्कारितं शिवमन्दिरम् ।
आकल्पं कल्पतां भूमेर्भूषणाय निरत्ययम् ॥१४॥ अत्र देवाय ग्रामे[स्मि]न्यश्च
[श्रीनिवासप्रह्नि-?]
- 8 [व्याघातं] कृत्वातिद्विष्य —⁵ यो हर्तुमिच्छति स पञ्चमहापातकैर्लिप्यते । शकसंवत्
१०३४ नन्दनसंवत्सरे चैत्र्यां शासनं लिखितमिति । लेखको विश्वस्वामि[नी]
[1*] १०३४ तथांके १५ [1*]

TRANSLATION.

Om ! Salutation to Śiva !

(Verse 1) May Śiva, causing the three states of the creation, maintenance and destruction of the worlds.....protect you !

(V. 2) In the western quarter there is a mountain known as Arbuda, round the girdle (i.e., the middle part) of which from one end to the other revolve the lord of tortoises⁶ and the sun.

(V. 3) Through Vasishṭha who became angry with Viśvāmitra who had taken away (his) *kāmadhēnu* (cow of plenty), there was born Paramāra from the sacrificial fire on that (mountain).

(V. 4) In his family which by its heroic deeds surpassed the races of the sun and the moon⁷ there was born a king named **Bhōja** who resembled Rāma in excellences.

(V. 5) After (him) there flourished his brother **Udayāditya** who uplifted the earth which had sunk under the attacks of three enemies.

(V. 6) The quarters and worlds were perforce occupied by his pure fame, the caverns by his enemies and the farthest directions by the poems of his supplicants.

(V. 7) To him who, though he had (several) sons, desired to have (another) son after his heart, was born the king **Jagaddēva** through (his) devotion to Hara.

¹ Metre of verses 10 and 11 : *Anushtubh*.

² Read पुण्याधारे-

³ Metre : *Śālinī*.

⁴ Metre of verses 13 and 14 : *Anushtubh*.

⁵ One *akshara* is illegible here. [The text form अत्र देवाय to हर्तुमिच्छति seem- also to be in verse.—Ed.]

⁶ I.e. Vishṇu in his tortoise incarnation.

⁷ *Pushpavanta* means both the sun and the moon, see above. Vol. XXII, p. 60.

(V. 8) When his father went to heaven, he, renouncing for fear of (*incurring the sin of*) *parivṛtti*¹ Royal Fortune who had offered herself to him, presented her to his elder brother.

(V. 9) 'You are the first among my sons, the lord of my kingdom, my right arm, such a victory incarnate in all regions. (*and*), my very self'—He who was thus graciously addressed by the lord of Kuntala, is adorning the southern direction, having attained that very position.

(V. 10) When he showers gold and arrows on (*his*) supplicants and enemies, they giving up their treasure of poverty and forces (*respectively*), wait upon him without any apprehension.

(V. 11) There is not that country, that village, that community, that assembly (*or*) that (*place*) where Jagaddēva is not praised day and night.

(V. 12) That king, named the illustrious **Jagaddēva**, has granted by means of a charter (*and*) as a source of religious merit, the village **Dōṅgaragrāma** to the Brāhmaṇa Śrīnivāsa (*to be enjoyed by him*) as long as the moon and the sun will endure.

(Vv. 13-14) In that Dōṅgaragrāma granted by him, Śrīnivāsa, the abode of learning and character, (*who*) is the son of Śrīnidhi, the store of blessings, has caused (*this*) temple of Śiva to be constructed for the attainment of religious merit by (*his*) father. May it, faultless as it is, serve to adorn the earth until (*the time of*) world-destruction.

(Lines 7-8) He who would desire to appropriate after causing obstruction and snatching away what has been given by Śrīnivāsa to the god in this village, would be contaminated by the five great sins!

In the **Śaka year 1034**, the cyclic year Nandana, on the full-moon day of Chaitra, this charter has been written. The scribe is Viśvasvāmin. (*In the year*) 1034 (*on the fifteenth tithi of Chaitra*), also in figures 15.

No. 27.—SIX SAINDHAVA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM GHUMLI.

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The six copper-plate grants, which I am editing here, were discovered early in 1936 near **Ghumli** in the Nawanagar State of Kathiawar in the course of digging on the road side. They were briefly noticed by the Government Epigraphist for India in the *Annual Report of the Archaeological Survey of India* for the year 1936-37, pp. 102-05. M. M. Shastri Hathibhai Harishanker has published their text along with brief notes in his *Report on the Twelve Copper-plate Inscriptions found at Ghumli*. Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, the Government Epigraphist for India, very kindly sent to me a good set of the ink-impressions of these plates with a request to edit them in the *Epigraphia Indica*. I am doing so accordingly. Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra, Assistant Superintendent for Epigraphy, made to me a number of valuable suggestions in connection with the present paper, which have been incorporated in it. I am grateful to him for his kind help.

The twelve copper-plates found at Ghumli contain the six records edited here, A consisting of three plates, C of one, and B, D, E, and F of two each. All of them record grants made by the rulers of the **Saindhava** family, which is at present known to have been ruling at ancient **Bhūtāmbilikā** or modern Ghumli from c. 740 to 920 A. D. The original name of the capital, which is uniformly spelt as Bhūtāmbilikā in our records, used to be popularly

¹ I.e. marrying before an elder brother marries. A man who did so was believed to go to hell.

contracted into Bhūmilikā, as shown by the Dhīniki plates of Jāikadēva.¹ Bhūmilikā was later on contracted into Bhumli, and the present name Ghumli is a mere variant of it.

As very little is known at present about the history of the Saindhavas of Ghumli, it will be convenient to discuss it here in a connected manner in the light of the valuable information supplied by the present six charters and other contemporary epigraphs. This will obviate the necessity of repetition, while editing the different charters. The dynasty was ruling in Western Kāthiāwār, with its capital at Bhūtāmbilikā or Ghumli, which is situated about 25 miles north-east of Porbandar in a gorge of the Barda hills. Though once the capital of a fairly prosperous dynasty for about two centuries, its present site is nothing but a heap of ruins. All is now a jungle, where once a multitude of human beings resided. Very little remains at present as evidence of its former glory save a few remnants of a royal palace, a huge image of Hanumān with a large bathing reservoir by its side and some ruins of insignificant temples.² To judge from the present ruins, ancient Bhūtāmbilikā was about a mile in length and about half a mile in breadth. Its population may, therefore, have been about 15,000. The ground-plan of the town resembles a widespread fan. The ramparts of the town were strong and massive and were surrounded by a deep ditch.

Before the discovery of the present plates, very little was known about the Saindhavas of Saurāshṭra. The earliest reference to them is in a grant of the Gujarāt Chālukya ruler Pulakēśi Janāśraya, dated in the year 490 of the Traikūṭaka era, corresponding to A. D. 738-9, where they are mentioned among the kings defeated in the Arab raid that was repulsed at Naosari by the Chālukyas.³ The next reference to them is in the Gwalior *Prasāsi* of Bhōjadēva, the 8th verse of which describes the Saindhavas as being overwhelmed by the Pratihāra emperor Nāgabhaṭa.⁴ Nothing, however, was known about the precise locality of the Saindhava kingdom or the history and achievements of any particular ruler of the house. The Morbi plate, issued by king Jāika whom we can now assign to this dynasty, was known,⁵ but as the plate recovered was the second one of the set, it could not be ascertained to which dynasty the grantor belonged.

The discovery of the present copper-plates now enables us to state definitely that the Saindhavas, who are referred to in the above records, were ruling in Western Kāthiāwār. Charter F of the present set, issued by Jāika II in Gupta Era 596 or A D 915-6 gives us the longest genealogy of the family. According to it, king **Pushyadēva**, who flourished seven generations earlier, was its founder. The name of the family is given here as *Jayadratha-vaṃśa* (l. 2). All the other charters, however, state that *Saindhava* was the name of the family. This discrepancy can be easily explained. According to the *Mahābhārata* king Jayadratha, the son-in-law of Dhṛitarāshṭra, was a ruler of the *Sindhu-dēśa* or Sindh. So those rulers who claimed descent from him could be described both as hailing from Sindh (Saindhava) and as ornaments of the Jayadratha family (*Jayadratha-vaṃśa-sēkhara*). In the earlier charters the first name is preferred, while in the latest one, the last one is introduced. The reason for this is not far to seek. As will be shown presently, Pushyadēva was probably an immigrant in Kāthiāwār from Sindh; so though he himself claimed to be descended from Jayadratha, he was known to his contemporaries as a Saindhava ruler. This name, therefore, was long in vogue. Later on when the tendency to claim an origin from a Puranic hero became quite

¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 155.

² *J. R. A. S.*, Vol. V, (1839), pp. 73-80.

³ *Bombay Gazetteer*, Vol. I, part I, p. 109.

⁴ *An. Rep. A. S. I.*, 1903-04, p. 231.

⁵ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. II, pp. 257-8.

common in the 9th and 10th centuries. Jāika II reverted to the original name of the family, viz., *Jayadratha-vaṁśa*.

The time of Pushyadēva, the earliest ruler of the dynasty, can be only approximately determined. His grandson's great-grandson has issued Charter A in G. E. 513 (A. D. 832-3); he may, therefore, be presumed to have ruled from c. G. E. 415 to 435 (c. A. D. 734—754).¹

We have now to consider the question whether this Pushyadēva is to be identified with the chief **Pushyēṇa** whose clay seal was found at Wala (ancient Valabhī) in Kāthiāwār. The legend on this seal reads as follows :—

- 1 *Ā Jayadrathād=avyavachchhinna-rāja-*
- 2 *vaṁśa-ga śrīr-mahā [r]āj-ā[h]ivarma[vaḥ]*
- 3 *sūn[r]=mahārāja-mahā[sēnā-]*
- 4 *pati-Pushyēṇa[ga]*²

It will be seen from the above legend that the seal belonged to *Mahārāja Mahā[sēnā]pati Pushyēṇa*, son of *Mahārāja Ahivarman*, who claimed an uninterrupted descent from Jayadratha. Pushyadēva, the founder of the dynasty which has issued the present charters, is also described as an ornament of the Jayadratha family in Charter F. The name Pushyadēva of our charter is merely a paraphrase of the name Pushyēṇa of the seal, as both the terms *ina* and *dēva* indicate a lord or a king in Sanskrit. The variation in the spelling of the name need not therefore be regarded as throwing any impediment in the way of the proposed identification. Just as we have common variations like Gōvinadēva and Gōvinadarāja we may as well have parallel forms like Pushyadēva and Pushyēṇa as both *dēva* and *ina* denote a ruler.

As against the proposed identification it is possible to argue that the characters of the seal of Pushyēṇa are somewhat earlier than those of the middle of the 8th century A. D., which is the probable time of Pushyadēva. There is some force in this argument; especially the *mātrā* for medial *ā* would undoubtedly suggest that the record belongs to the 6th century A. D. Letters *ma*, *na* and *ha* on the seal, however, show a form which is seen to be current in the Valabhī records of the middle of the 8th century A. D. The *mātrās* for medial *ā* may therefore be instances of the survival of archaic forms, which we very often meet with in ancient Indian palæography. It is not impossible that Pushyēṇa may have selected these archaic *mātrās* to render forgery difficult. All things considered, it therefore looks very probable, though not absolutely certain, that *Jayadratha-vaṁśa-śekhara* Pushyadēva, the founder of the Saindhava house, is identical with Pushyēṇa of the Wala seal, who claimed an unbroken descent for his family from Jayadratha. The legend of the seal is in some places defective, but if the restoration proposed by Bühler is correct, it would appear that like many other founders of ruling families, Pushyadēva began his career as a general and ended by founding a feudatory principality. He seems to have been a feudatory of the Maitrakas of Valabhī. The same was probably the case with his son Kṛishnarāja, at least during the first half of his reign.

According to tradition, Bhūtāmbilikā, i.e. Ghumli, where the present plates were discovered, was the old capital of the Jethvā Rājapūts, whose present representatives are the Rājās of Porbandar. There are various theories in the field about the origin of the term Jethvā. Dr. Wilson has traced the origin of the name to the term **Jāṭ**, and has suggested tribal consanguinity between the Jāṭs and Jethvās.³ Jackson thinks that the Jethvās are very probably

¹ See the genealogical table on p. 196.

² *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXXVIII, p. 145; see also *ibid.*, Vol. XII, pp. 274-5.

³ *Bombay Gazetteer*, Vol. I, part I, p. 145.

descended from the White Huns ; he holds that the term Jeṭhvā is probably derived from **Yetha**, the shortened Chinese form of Ye-ta-i-li-to or Epthalite, which was the name of the ruling class of the White Huns.¹ According to the bardic tradition, the clan has derived its name from **Jeṭha**, the 95th ruler in the traditional genealogy of the rulers of Porbandar.² M. M. Shastri Hathibhai Harishanker thinks that the Jeṭhvās were so called because they represented the senior branch of the Saindhavas of these grants. In support of this view he points out how charters A and B prove the supersession of the senior line of Kṛishṇarāja by the junior branch of Jāika I and observes : ' The descendants of Jāika as coming to the throne of Bhūmli were probably called Bhūmliās and the descendants of Kṛishṇarāja, who was *jyēshṭha*, were called Jeṭhvās '.³

That all the above theories about the origin of the Jeṭhvās are fanciful and untenable can now be conclusively proved. The description of the founder of our house as the crest-jewel of the Jayadratha family and the claim made in the legend on his seal that he was directly descended from Jayadratha make it clear that the rulers of Porbandar eventually came to be known as **Jeṭhvās**, not because they belonged to any foreign stock like that of the White Huns or Jāts or represented the senior line of the Saindhavas, **but because they claimed the epic hero Jayadratha as the founder of their family**. Sanskrit Jayadratha becomes Jeṭha in Prākṛit through the intermediate forms Jairath and Jaiṭh. *Vā* was added at the end of the term Jeṭha under the influence of the ' quantity law ' of phonetics.

The theory of their descent from Jayadratha is, however, quite unknown to the modern Jeṭhvās, whose present representatives, the Rāṇās of Porbandar, trace their origin to Hanumān, the famous hero of the *Rāmāyaṇa*. Hanumān also is the emblem on their flag.

The emblem of the Saindhavas of Bhūtāmbilikā is, however, fish. This was but natural also ; they claimed to be the masters of the western ocean and so must have proudly claimed fish to be their emblem, as did their contemporaries the Pāṇḍyas of the extreme south. The difference in the seal emblems however need not go against the well established tradition that the Jeṭhvās of Porbandar originally hailed from Bhūtāmbilikā. The emblem on the seal or banner may have changed in later times. That the Jeṭhvās also had once fish or *makara* as their emblem on their banner would appear very probable from the fact that in their genealogy Makaradhvaṇa figures immediately after Hanumān, the founder of the family. This mysterious personage, Makaradhvaṇa, appears so early in their genealogy simply because Makara or fish was on their *dhvaṇa* or banner in early times, as Hanumān was in later days. The change of the emblem from fish to Hanumān may have been due to the Jeṭhvās becoming in later times the devotees of Rāma and his faithful servant Hanumān. That in early medieval times the kings of Bhūtāmbilikā venerated Hanumān along with Makara is rendered very probable, as pointed out by Bühler, by the circumstance that on the brackets of one of the ruined temples at Ghumli, the monkey emblem appears side by side with that of the fish.⁴ Further support is lent to this view by the presence of a huge image of Hanumān near the remnants of the old palace in the ruins of Ghumli. In later times when the sea voyage became forbidden and the Jeṭhvās lost their command over the sea, the figure of Hanumān must have begun to appeal to them more than that of the fish. This must have led to the eventual abandonment of the fish emblem. During the period of our charters, however, the fish emblem was the only emblem of the dynasty ; it invariably appears in the case of each of our five complete sets of copper-plates either on the

¹ *Ibid.*

² *Ibid.* ; Vol. VIII—*Kāthiāvār*, pp. 621-2.

³ M. M. Shastri. *The Report on the Twelve Copper-plate Inscriptions found at Ghumli*, p. 6.

⁴ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 153.

seal or at the end of the last plate. It also appears at the end of the genuine Morbi and the spurious Dhīniki plates of king Jāika, who belonged to the same house.¹

We have seen above that Pushyadēva, the founder of the Saindhava dynasty, flourished between c. 515 and 535 G. E. (c. 734 and 754 A. D.). He began his career as a military commander and ended by founding a feudatory family. Though he claimed to belong to Jayadratha family, he and his descendants were generally known as Saindhavas, probably because they were among the emigrants from Sindh who had to leave that province after its conquest by the Arabs in 712 A.D.

A copper-plate grant of the Gujarāt Chālukya ruler Pulakēśi Janāśraya, dated in the year 490 of the Traikūṭaka era (A.D. 738-9), describes an Arab raid that had just then taken place and shows how it had overpowered the Saindhava, Kachchha, Saurāshṭra, Chāpa and Gurjara chiefs.² It is almost certain that the Saindhavas who are mentioned here have to be identified with the family of our charters, whose founder Pushyadēva was at that time just trying to settle down in some northern corner of Kāthiāwār. The chief who suffered from the Arab raid was probably Pushyadēva himself, as the approximate period of his reign is A.D. 734-754.

The Saindhavas were at that time mere feudatories as their own charters, as well as those of their contemporaries, would clearly show. They could therefore hardly have dreamt of claiming for themselves any imperial position or titles; in fact they never claimed these at any time in their career. And yet the Dhīniki plates, purporting to be issued in *Samvat* 794 (A.D. 733) refer to their grantor, king Jāikadēva, as an imperial ruler enjoying the titles *Paramabhātāraka*, *Mahārājādhirāja* and *Paramēśvara*.³ This Jāikadēva was no doubt intended to be a Saindhava chief, for his capital was Bhūmilikā and seal emblem the fish. The long genealogy of the Saindhavas given in Charter F reaches back to the second quarter of the 8th century A.D. but knows of no chief named Jāikadēva ruling at that time. **It is therefore clear that the Dhīniki grant is a forgery**; this conclusion is also supported by some other circumstances like the palaeography of the plates and the non-occurrence of the eclipse on the date given in the plates. The data of the Dhīniki plates therefore cannot cast any doubt on the conclusion above arrived at, viz. at c. 740 A.D. Pushyadēva and not Jāikadēva was the ruling Saindhava king, and that he was a mere feudatory.

Pushyadēva or Pushyēna was succeeded by his son **Krishnarāja** and the latter by his son **Agguka I**, whose rule may be approximately placed in the periods from 435 to 455 G. E. (A.D. 754 to 774) and from 455 to 475 G. E. (A.D. 774 to 794) respectively. During the reigns of these two monarchs also, Kāthiāwār suffered a good deal from Arab invasions. As these were naval invasions coming direct from Sindh, and as the Saindhavas were in those days the leading Hindu naval power of Kāthiāwār, they must have borne the brunt of attack. It must be said to their credit that they eventually came out victorious from the struggle and did not succumb to it like the Maitrakas of Valabhī. In c. 760 A.D. Hasham, the governor of Sindh, sent Amrū bin Jamāl with a fleet of barks to the coast of Barada and the invasion was repeated 20 years later. The Muslim historians tell us that though the last expedition succeeded in capturing the town of Barada, sickness swept away a great portion of the army and the remaining were swept away in a shipwreck on the coast of Persia. The experience was so bitter that, we are told, the Muslims were deterred from making further attempts at aggrandisement in that direction.⁴

¹ [It may be recalled that the emblem on Jayadratha's banner was a boar, *varāha*.—B. C. C.]

² *Bombay Gazetteer*, Vol. I, part 1, p. 109.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 151.

⁴ Elliot and Dowson, *History of India*, Vol. I, p. 444. There is some doubt about the spelling of the name of the place attacked but Dowson feels satisfied that the spelling is really Barada.

The town of Barada attacked by the Muslims may have been either the village Barlia, which is ten miles to the north-west of Porbandar, or Bhūtāmbilikā itself, which is situated in the vicinity of the Barada hills. From the Muslim version of the expedition it appears that though the Muslims were successful in the beginning, they had eventually to leave the country. For aught we know, the sickness of the army may have been as much responsible for this evacuation as the bravery of the Saindhava defenders. It is really a pity that Charters A and B, which take the genealogy back to the time of Agguka I, should have indulged in merely a general description of his bravery, instead of giving us a vivid account of this definite historic achievement. In Charter F, however, we have a vague reference to the repulsing of the Muslim invasion, when we are told that Agguka showed the greatness of Varāha when he easily rescued his country, which was being drowned in an ocean of naval force sent by powerful enemies (ll. 4-5). The naval supremacy of the Saindhavas, to which five of our charters expressly refer, must have been of great help to them in driving back the Arabs. This achievement of theirs was indeed noteworthy, when we remember the modest size of their principality.

Agguka I was succeeded by his son **Rāṇaka**, who may be presumed to have ruled from c. G. E. 475 to 495 (A. D. 794 to 814). M. M. Shastri Hathibhai Harishanker has attributed Charter C (his Plate A) to this ruler; it will, however, be shown in the introduction to that plate how this attribution is untenable. We have so far recovered no grant given by this ruler.

No contemporary grants of the first four rulers of the Saindhava family have so far been recovered, but there is no doubt that they were mere feudatories as stated above. The epithet *Apara-Surāśṭrāmaṇḍala-maṇḍana* used in connection with the members of this family in most of its genuine records shows that its sphere of influence never extended much beyond Western Kāthiāwār. It would, however, appear that they had developed considerable naval strength, for our charters invariably describe them as the masters of the Western Ocean. The Mers, who were prominent among the subjects of the Saindhavas, were well known for their maritime activities. Arab historians admit that they were a great maritime power in Kāthiāwār during the 8th and the 9th centuries.¹ They must obviously have enabled their rulers, the Saindhavas, to rule the Western Ocean. The title *Apara-samudr-ādhipati* taken in all our complete charters by the Saindhavas is therefore no empty boast. In seeking to retain the command over the seas, the Saindhavas had shown a foresight evinced by few rulers of ancient India.

Two sons of king Rāṇaka figure in Charters A and B. Of these **Kṛishṇarāja II** was the elder and **Jāika I** was the younger. They were half-brothers, for Jāika is expressly described as a *vaimātrō bhrātā* in Charter A. Kṛishṇarāja II succeeded his father in due course in c. 495 G. E. (A. D. 814). A large number of florid epithets have been used to describe his glory and valour in Charter A and one or two of them undoubtedly refer to some contemporary political events. He is described as full of enthusiasm in troubling the host of his enemies, the Chāpins, in l. 15 of Charter A. The same observation has been made in almost identical words about his younger brother Jāika I and the latter's two sons, kings Chāmuṇḍa and Agguka. These four rulers were ruling from c. 814 to 874 A. D., as will be shown,² and they all seem to have been at war with the Chāpins or the Chāpas. There were two Chāpa families ruling in Northern Gujarāt and North-east Kāthiāwār at this time. The one founded by Vanarāja was ruling at Anahilapaṭṭana since c. 765 A. D., while the other to which king Dharanivarāha of the Haḍḍālā plates of the Śaka year 836 belonged, was ruling at Wadhwan since c. 850 A. D. Since in all our records the Saindhavas describe themselves as the lords of Western Saurāṣṭra

¹ Elliot and Dowson, *History of India*, Vol. I, p. 114 and pp. 519-31.

² See the genealogical and chronological table, p. 196.

only, it is almost certain that the Chāpa enemies of kings Chāmunda and Agguka (c. 849 to 874 A. D.) were Chāpa kings Vikramārka and Adḍaka of Wadhwan, who were the great-grandfather and grandfather respectively of king Dharaṇivarāha. If there were no ancestors of Vikramārka ruling at Wadhwan before his time, then the Chāpa enemies of Kṛishṇarāja II and his brother Jāika I, who ruled from c. 814 to 849 A. D., would be Chāpa rulers Yōgarāja and Ratnāditya of the Anahilapattana dynasty, who were ruling during the first half of the 9th century A. D.¹ The fact that as many as four successive Saindhava kings are seen to be at war with the Chāpas would show that there was a hereditary feud between these two neighbouring dynasties, as was the case between the Pallavas and the Chālukvas or between the Rāshtrakūṭas and the Pratihāras. The fights, however, must have been mostly of the nature of frontier skirmishes.

Charter A describes king Kṛishṇarāja II as a ruler who had, like Bharata, propitiated Rāma by his steady and proper behaviour (I. 15). This statement has also been made with reference to his brother Jāika I and the latter's son Agguka in Charters B and D. It is almost certain that a *double entendre* is intended to be conveyed by the expression *Bharata in-āchalad-uchita-samūrādhitā-Rāmah*. The identity of king Rāma to whom kings Kṛishṇarāja and Jāika I had shown unswerving loyalty is not difficult to find out. These rulers were ruling from c. 814 to 849 A. D., as will presently be shown; the overlord to whom they were devotedly loyal must be the **Pratihāra emperor Rāmabhadra**, who ruled from c. 833 to 836 A. D. From the 8th verse in the Gwalior *prastā* of Pratihāra Bhōja I we learn that the Saindhavas were among the rulers signally defeated by the Pratihāra emperor Nāgabhaṭa II,² who is known to have ruled from c. 805 to 833 A. D. The Saindhava kings, who must have felt the brunt of the rising Pratihāra power under Nāgabhaṭa II, must have been Rāpaka I (c. 794 to 814 A. D.), Kṛishṇarāja II (c. 814 to 824 A. D.), and his younger brother Jāika I (c. 824 to 849 A. D.).³ It would appear that the campaign in Kāthiāwār was entrusted by Nāgabhaṭa II to the crown-prince Rāmabhadra, who, on its successful termination, seems to have been appointed Viceroy over the western provinces by his father Nāgabhaṭa. After their defeat by the Pratihāras, Kṛishṇarāja II and Jāika I appear to have remained loyal to the royal Viceroy Rāmabhadra and are, therefore, fittingly described as propitiating Rāma by their steady and proper behaviour. This statement has been made also in connection with Agguka son of Jāika I, in Charter D, though he was not a contemporary of Rāmabhadra either as a crown-prince or as an emperor, the period of his reign being c. A. D. 849 to 869.⁴ It is, however, not difficult to explain how this mistake has taken place. In our present set of charters, a number of epithets have been bodily transferred from one ruler to another in several places. The use of *Bharata in-āchalad-uchita-samūrādhitā-Rāmah* in the case of Agguka would be an illustration of this tendency.

From the time of Kṛishṇarāja II (c. 820 A. D.), the Saindhavas became the feudatories of the Pratihāras as shown above. The Pratihāras, however, were not able to exercise the same rigorous control over their administration as they had imposed upon the government of many of their other feudatories. The Ūnā plates of Balavarman⁵ show that the members of the feudatory Chālukya house, which was ruling contemporaneously with the Saindhavas as a feudatory of the Pratihāras in Southern Kāthiāwār, could not make any land-grants without the consent of the officers of the imperial government. The grant of Dharaṇivarāha,⁶ who was ruling as a Pratihāra feudatory at Wadhwan in Northern Kāthiāwār, shows that he did

¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 193.

² *An. Rep. A. S. I.*, 1903-04, p. 280.

³ During the reign period here assigned to Jāika I, the period of his regency is also included.

⁴ See below p. 194.

⁵ *Ante*, Vol. IX, pp. 1 ff.

⁶ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 193.

not or perhaps dared not omit to mention the name of his feudal lord, Mahēndrapāla, through whose favour he was enjoying his principality. All the Saindhava grants, including the Morbi plate of Jāikadēva, have, however, been issued without any permission, express or implied, of the imperial power or its local representatives. The *dūtaka* of Charter B is no doubt an officer named Pratihāra Kṛishṇa. There is nothing to indicate that he was a local representative of the imperial power. The utmost that can possibly be said is that he may have belonged to the same ethnic stock to which the Pratihāra emperors belonged. He was, however, no doubt an officer serving under Jāika I and executing his orders. He owed no allegiance to the Pratihāras, nor was he responsible to them like Dhūka of the Ūnā plates, who is found signing the charter of the feudatory king Balavarman on behalf of his imperial master.¹ Probably Kṛishṇa, the *dūtaka*, was holding the office of the *Pratihāra* (chamberlain) in the royal court, as was the case with many other *dūtakas*.²

It is also worth noting that if we leave the veiled reference to their loyalty to emperor Rāmabhadra, the Saindhavas nowhere acknowledge the Pratihāras as their overlords. When however we remember that eastern, southern and northern Kāthiāwār was under the suzerainty of the Pratihāras from the time of Nāgabhaṭa II to that of Mahēndrapāla, when we note how the Pratihāras claim to have defeated the Saindhavas, and when due allowance is made for the fact that the Saindhavas never claim to be anything more than mere feudatories, the conclusion becomes irresistible that their overlords were no other rulers than the imperial Pratihāras of Kanauj even during the latter half of the 9th century and onwards. They were, however, able and clever enough to secure for themselves a much larger share of internal autonomy than was ever conceded to their eastern and southern neighbours. The valuable assistance which the Saindhava navy could give to the Pratihāras in their struggles with the Arabs was probably the main reason for this preferential treatment.

Let us resume our account of the reign of Kṛishṇarāja II. He is described in Charter A as ridiculing Duryōdhana and drinking the blood of Duśśāsana like Bhīma. It is possible that here also there may be a pun and a veiled reference to Kṛishṇarāja's fight with some real historical kings named Duryōdhana and Duśśāsana, hitherto unknown to us. This, however, is not very probable; for the expression showing comparison to Bhīma has been used also with reference to Jāika I in Charter B, Agguka in Charter D and Chāmuṇḍa in Charter E. All these kings could not have fought with the same rulers Duryōdhana and Duśśāsana. It is therefore very improbable that any historic events lie concealed in the above comparisons.

Kṛishṇarāja is further described as a ruler who had pleased the inhabitants of Parvata, and who therefore resembled Śaṅkara, who was a source of delight to the relations of (Himālaya) Parvata (mountain). The expression containing the above description has been used with reference to three other rulers, Jāika I and his sons Chāmuṇḍa and Agguka. The inhabitants of the mountainous regions who were pleased with these four rulers were obviously the residents of the territory round about the Barada hills, in the vicinity of which Bhūtāmbilikā, the Saindhava capital, was situated. It is therefore clear that this city had become the Saindhava capital at least as early as the reign of Kṛishṇarāja I (c. 820 A.D.). Unless we assume that the draftsman of Charter F is guilty of anachronism, we shall have to concede that Bhūtāmbilikā was the Saindhava capital even as early as the time of Pushyadēva, for he has been described in that Charter as *Bhūtāmbilik-ābhidhāna-nagarī-garīyaḥ*. etc. (l. 1).

The tradition represents the Jēthvās as ruling at Morbi before they were established at Ghumli. Our charters are however silent on the point. Nor does the Morbi plate of Jāikadēva

¹ See Balavarman's plates *ante*, Vol. IX, p. 6, text l. 36; see also Avanivarman's plates, *ibid.*, p. 9, text l. 52.

² *Ante*, Vol. XV, p. 291, text l. 8., Vol. XIX, p. 304, text l. 27.

support the above tradition. This plate was issued in A.D. 901, that is to say, long after Bhūtāmbilikā had become the Saindhava capital; nor does it state that Morbi was the original home of the Jēṭhvās. For aught we know, if the first Morbi plate is discovered, it will be found to have been issued from Bhūtāmbilikā like all other Saindhava charters; it may have been taken to Morbi by the donee or his descendants.

Kṛishṇarāja died comparatively young: for Charter A shows that his son and successor **Agguka II** was a young boy at his death, and that the administration had to be carried on by his uncle Jāika. Since this charter is issued in 513 G. E. (A.D. 832-3), and since by that time the plan of usurpation of Jāika was almost complete, we may place the death of Kṛishṇarāja II in c. 505 G. E. (c. 824 A.D.). He thus had a short reign of about ten years only.

Poor Agguka, the son and successor of Kṛishṇarāja II, shared the usual fate of minor rulers, who have the misfortune of having as their guardians ambitious and unscrupulous uncles. Agguka had such an uncle in Jāika and he was his step-uncle too. In Charter A, ll. 23-24, Jāika no doubt boasts that though Kamalā (Royal Fortune) was anxious to be united to him in preference to Agguka, her rightful lord, he spurned her wily overtures and decided to be the disinterested guardian of his young and inexperienced nephew. This profession however is belied by the indications given by other parts of the charter; he does not give the usual titles of a reigning feudatory to his nephew but takes them for himself. The grant of the village also has been made, not in the name of the minor heir, but in that of the so-called regent himself. In the colophon of the charter, its writer also refers to Jāika, and not to Agguka, as the reigning king. It is therefore clear that the plans of usurpation of Jāika were almost complete when Charter A was issued in A.D. 832-3. The actual usurpation took place before the issue of Charter B, where we find Jāika I mentioning himself as the ruling king, and omitting all reference to his elder brother and his son in the genealogy. This charter is unfortunately not dated, and so we can get only an approximate idea of the time of usurpation. We have already seen that at the time of the issue of Charter A in 513 G. E. the usurpation was almost complete except in name; the actual supersession could not have been delayed probably beyond 515 G. E.

It would appear that Jāika I allowed Agguka to rule as a feudatory under himself after he had usurped the throne, exercising jurisdiction over a portion of his kingdom. For we find Agguka's son **Rāṇaka** issuing the land-grant mentioned in Charter C. Unfortunately this charter is incomplete and so its date is not known. We would not be far wrong if we assume that after his supersession in c. 515 G. E. (835 A. D.), Agguka continued to rule as his uncle's feudatory for another 25 years. His son Rāṇaka may therefore be taken to have ruled from c. 540 to 560 G. E. (c. 859 to 879 A. D.).

Let us now revert to the career of the usurper Jāika I. He and his descendants eventually became the leaders of the Saindhava family. As shown already, he ascended the throne in c. 515 G. E. (c. 834 A. D.). As he succeeded an elder brother and his minor son, he may be presumed to have ruled only for about 15 years, i.e., up to c. 530 G. E. (A. D. 849). As shown already, he continued to remain a loyal feudatory of the Pratihāra emperor Rāmabhadra. In his reign also there were several skirmishes with his eastern neighbours, the Chāpas of Wadhwan.

Jāika I died in c. 849 A. D., leaving behind him two sons, **Chāmundaarāja** and **Agguka**. Charters D, E and F make it absolutely clear that the little Saindhava kingdom was further subdivided between these brothers on the death of Jāika I. Rāṇaka, a grandson of Jāika I, through his son Agguka, is seen to be issuing Charter D in 555 G. E.: 12 years later i.e., in 567 G. E., another grandson of Jāika I, named Agguka, through his son Chāmundaarāja, is found to be giving Charter E. In the genealogy of Charter F issued in 596 G. E., Agguka and Rāṇaka of Charter D are altogether passed over; Jāika I is stated to have been succeeded by his son

Chāmundaṛāja and the latter by his son Agguka III and this last by his son Jāika II. It is therefore clear that both the sons of Jāika I founded separate ruling houses.

Our charters do not make it clear as to which of the two sons of Jāika I was the elder one. It would however appear that Agguka was the younger one, as he and his son are passed over in the genealogy of Charter F. In Charter D Rāṇaka, the grantor, is stated to have been placed upon the throne by his father Agguka in his own lifetime. This may probably be due to Agguka's apprehension that his elder brother may resume his principality after his death.

Since Charter D of king Rāṇaka is issued in 555 G. E. and Charter E of his cousin Agguka in 567 G. E., it is possible to argue that there was no further subdivision of the Saindhava kingdom after the death of Jāika I. Rāṇaka, the grantor of Charter D, may have died soon after that charter was issued in 555 G. E. and may have been succeeded by his uncle Chāmundaṛāja; the latter after a naturally short reign may have been succeeded by his son Agguka, the grantor of Charter E, some time before 567 G. E. As against this view, it may be pointed out that Rāṇaka of Charter D had a grown-up son named Jāika, who was acting as Yuvarāja in 555 G. E. In the normal course of events, therefore, his succession could not have devolved upon his uncle. It is further to be noted that in Charter E issued in 567 G. E. there is a statement made in ll. 5-6 that the Saindhava family had at that time 'numerous branches and leaves', *aparimīta-sniḡhataṛa-patṛa-sākhā-saṇchaya-sālī*. It is interesting to note that this statement does not occur in the earlier charters of the Saindhava family. It would therefore show, in the light of the further evidence of Charters C and D, that there were at least three branches of the Saindhava family ruling in Western Kāthiāwār during the third quarter of the 9th century A. D. The Saindhava kingdom was no doubt a small one, but this tripartite division need not only on that account be pronounced as improbable, as the example of the Paṭvardhans ruling in the Southern Marāṭhā Country at present would show. The small patrimony of this Sardar family of the Peshwas, hardly equal to a normal district in British India, has been divided into four petty kingdoms of Sangli, Miraj, Mirajmalā, and Kurundwād.

Members of all the three Saindhava houses are seen to be issuing their grants from Bhūtāmbilikā. Though there is some evidence of mutual jealousy, we do not find them fighting with one another. It would therefore appear that they were all staying at Bhūtāmbilikā, their ancestral capital, but ruling over different parts of their ancestral kingdom, more like members of a federation than as rulers of separate states. Our charters supply some evidence about the manner in which the ancestral territories were divided among the three branches, but it is very difficult to interpret. Charter C would show that the district of **Pachchhatrī** was under the seniormost branch of Kṛishṇarāja,¹ while Charter D would indicate that the district of **Suvarṇa-maṇjarī** was allotted to the juniormost branch of Agguka.² But Charters B, E, and F show that both the above districts were included in the kingdom of the branch founded by Jāika I. We can reconcile these conflicting statements only by assuming that the seniormost and juniormost branches were ruling not over the whole but part of the two districts mentioned above, and that the leading family founded by Jāika I held sway over portions of both of them.

Let us now resume the history of the family. It will be convenient to finish first the account of the **juniormost branch of Agguka**. This ruler succeeded his father Jāika I in c. 530 G. E. (c. 849 A.D.); his reign may therefore be placed between 530 and 550 G. E. (c. 849-869 A.D.). In Charter D issued by his son Rāṇaka, this ruler has been described in adjectives which have been used for his predecessors in earlier grants; they therefore do not enable us to get a clear idea of his personality or achievements.

¹ Cf. the expression : *yathā mayā sva-bhujyamāna-Pachchhatrī-vishay-āntahpātī* in Charter C, l. 18.

² Cf. the expression : *yathā mayā sva-bhujyamāna-Suvarṇamaṇjarī-vishaya* in Charter D, ll. 27-8.

Agguka was succeeded by his son **Rāṇaka**. His copper-plate grant, Charter D of our series, has been issued in 555 G. E. (A. D. 874-5). We may therefore place his reign between c. 550 G. E. and 570 G. E. (c. 869-889 A. D.). From his charter we learn that his father had abdicated in his favour and participated in his coronation himself. The probable implication of this statement has been already discussed on the preceding page. The description of this ruler in Charter D does not enable us to form any opinion about his achievements, as it is all conventional. Nor does it throw any light on contemporary history.

Already in 555 G. E. (A. D. 874-5) Rāṇaka had a grown-up Yuvarāja named Jāika who figures as the *dūtaka* of Charter D. It is not known whether this prince succeeded his father. His name has been omitted in the long genealogy given in Charter F issued in 596 G. E., but that may be due to his having belonged to a collateral branch. There are no indications of the independent existence of this branch having come to an end with Rāṇaka, and we may therefore well assume that the crown prince Jāika of Charter D ruled from c. 570 to 590 G. E. (A. D. 889-909).

Let us now resume the history of **main Saindhava branch**, which was continued by **Chāmundaṛāja**, the eldest son of Jāika I. This ruler may be presumed to have ruled from c. 530 to 555 G. E. (c. 849 to 874 A. D.). Charters E and F describe this ruler; his description is however all conventional and useless for the purpose of reconstructing sober history.

Chāmundaṛāja was succeeded by his son **Agguka III**. As he has issued Charter E in 567 G. E., we may place his reign from c. 555 to 580 G. E. (874 to 899 A. D.). Charters E and F no doubt introduce some new expressions in the description of this ruler. No specific historic events have however been mentioned, and so we can say hardly anything definite about his achievements.

Agguka III was succeeded by his son **Jāika II**. As he has issued Charter F in 596 G. E., his reign may be safely placed from c. 580 to 600 G. E. (c. 899 to 919 A. D.). His charter compares him with a number of gods and heroes, but mentions not a single historic exploit.

King Jāika of the Morbi plate is most probably to be identified with this ruler.¹ That plate was issued in 585 G. E. when this ruler was on the throne. As only the concluding plate of the Morbi grant has been recovered, the names of the family and ancestors of king Jāika are not known. The fish emblem at the end of that plate would however show that he belonged to the Saindhava family. Ll. 5-7 of the Morbi plate of Jāika are identical with ll. 31-2 of the Charter F in our set. Both the charters have been composed by the same individual, Jhōjjha. Dēddaka the engraver of the Morbi plates was a brother of Madhusūdāna, the engraver of our Charter F of Jāika II, as both of them have been described as sons of Śāṅkara. It is therefore almost certain that the Morbi plates of 585 G. E. were issued by the same Jāika, who has issued our Charter F in 596 G. E. Had there not been another Jāika, son of king Rāṇaka of Charter D, ruling at this time in the 3rd Saindhava branch, the above identification would have become a mathematical certainty. We have however seen that the rule of this Jāika has to be placed from c. 570 to 590 G. E. He could therefore well have issued the Morbi plates of 585 G. E. with the fish emblem at the end. We however notice from Charters E and F that Jhōjjha, the composer of these records, was a protégé of kings Agguka III and Jāika II belonging to the main Saindhava branch. It is this very person who has composed the Morbi record. This circumstance would show that king Jāika of the Morbi record is more likely to be Jāika II, son of

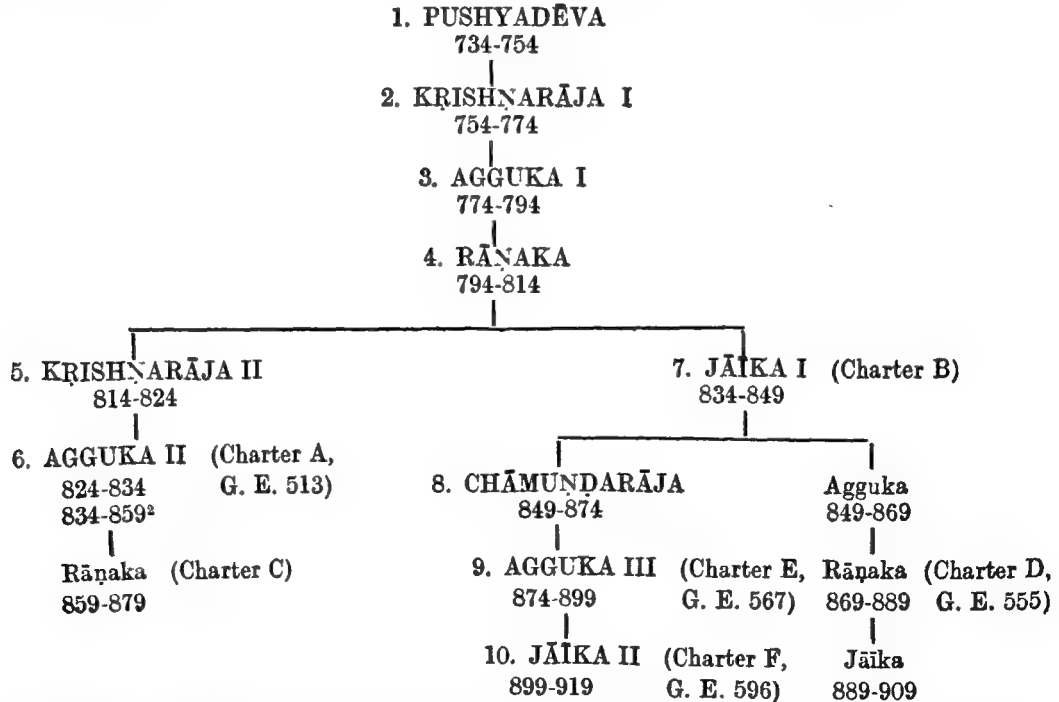
¹ R. G. Bhandarkar reads this king's name as Jāinka (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. II, pp. 257-8). This is no doubt a possible reading, but the form of the second letter of this name as given in Charter D, l. 7 of this set shows that the name was really Jāika.

Agguka III of the main branch, than king Jāika, son of king Rāṇaka of the third Saindhava branch.

We shall now briefly consider the extent of the Saindhava kingdom. From c. 850 A.D. the Chāpas had been established at Wadhwan in Northern Kāthiāwār as is made clear by the Haḍḍālā grant of Dharaṇivarāha.¹ The ancestors of the Chālukya chief Balavarman had been established in Southern Kāthiāwār a few decades earlier, as their Ūnā grants show. The kingdom of the Saindhavas could therefore not have extended beyond the western portion of Kāthiāwār. They themselves also do not claim to be ruling over any larger area, as the description of their family *Apara-Surāshīrā-maṇḍala-maṇḍana* in our grants shows. Villages granted by them are also all situated in Western Kāthiāwār.

Many of the rulers, whose history has been discussed above, are described as having distinguished themselves on battle-fields. These wars may refer either to their naval conflicts with the Arabs of Sindh or to ordinary skirmishes with their eastern neighbours. As already pointed out above, they were the feudatories of the Pratihāras, but they do not seem to have taken any part in any of the famous campaigns of their imperial sovereigns. The Ūnā plates show that Bāhukadhavala, the grandfather of the grantor, had taken active part in the campaigns of his overlord against the Pālas and the Rāshtrakūṭas. The Saindhavas do not seem to have emulated the example of their neighbours in the south-east. They probably felt that they need not exhaust their limited resources in order to strengthen the power of their imperial masters.

We now append below a genealogical tree of this family along with its branches. The names of the rulers of the **main branch** are given in BOLD type. Approximate time of their rule is given in each case in A. D. Charters issued by different rulers are shown after their names with years in Gupta Era.



¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, pp. 193 ff.

² This is the time of his rule as a feudatory of his uncle, Jāika I and cousin Chāmuṇḍarāja.

Very little is known at present about the history of the Saindhavas subsequent to the middle of the 10th century A. D. Bhūtāmbilikā continued to prosper for at least another three hundred years; for when Lieut. Jacob had visited the site of Ghumli in 1838 he could trace in its ruins inscriptions dated in the years 1062 and 1229 A. D.¹ The bardic account which attributes the ruin of the city to a Muslim invasion from Sindh in c. 1313 A. D., therefore, seems to be substantially correct.²

A.—Grant of the time of Agguka II ; [Gupta] Samvat 513.

This grant has been engraved on a set of **three copper-plates**, which have been held together by two rings passing through two holes near the edge. The ends of the rings have been soldered together, and one of them has been impressed with a **seal** bearing the emblem of a **fish**, which was the insignia of the dynasty. The size of the first plate is $13\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{2}''$, of the second, $13\frac{3}{8}'' \times 8\frac{3}{4}''$, and of the third, $13\frac{5}{16}'' \times 8\frac{1}{8}''$. The total weight of the plates, rings and the seal is $326\frac{1}{2}$ *tolas*. The engraving of the record is very deep and shows on the back of each plate. That is probably the reason why the central plate does not as usual bear the inscription on both the sides.

There are 12 lines on the first plate, 15 on the second and 18 on the third. After the first plate was inscribed, it was realised that the record could not be finished in three plates unless not only was the number of lines per plate increased, but also the size of the letters reduced. Both these steps were taken by the engraver, as can be seen by a glance at the plates. The engraving has been well done and mistakes are few. They have been indicated in the text and notes and no further comment is necessary here.

The **characters** of the record are proto-Nāgarī ones and bear a general resemblance to those of the Rādhanpur plates of Gōvinda III,³ which were issued from northern Gujarāt 24 years earlier. The forms of the letters *na*, *ra* and *ka* of the latter record slightly differ from those in the present one; but they are similar to those in Charters D, E and F of this series.

The **language** of the record is Sanskrit and its style is of the courtly poetry. It is very florid and abounds in long compounds; the writer spares no pains in producing a remarkable array of alliterative phrases. There is an abundance of similes and metaphors, though they are of the usual hackneyed type. There are several expressions with a *double entendre*, as is the case with the works of Bāṇa and Subandhu. Our record may be confidently cited as a good example of poetic prose, written in a style, which has always excited admiration of the Pandit educated in the old fashion.

The above observations about the language and style hold good of all the charters that are being edited here. It may therefore well be concluded that the Saindhava rulers, who had in their secretariate officers of such remarkable literary ability, must have been great patrons of Sanskrit literature. The fact that the *dūtaka* of the present charter is a poet named Bāla would show that men of literary attainments could get responsible posts in the Saindhava administration.

The colophon at the end of the record tells us that its composer was **Kapila, son of Vikkaṭa, who was an ornament of the Śakas**. Gujarāt and Kāthiāwār were under the Śaka rule for more than three centuries and this must have resulted in the settlement of a large

¹ *J. R. A. S.*, Vol. V, pp. 75 and 77.

² *Kathiawar Gazetteer*, p. 625.

³ *Ante*, Vol. VI, p. 244-5.

Śaka population in these provinces. Our record would show that even when four centuries had elapsed since the disappearance of the Śaka rule, the Śakas retained some individuality of their own and could be distinguished from the general population. Probably they had formed a caste of their own, but were otherwise completely Hinduised. When this separate Śaka caste completely merged in Hindu society is not known at present.

Though a Śaka, Kapila, the composer of our record, shows a remarkable command not only over Sanskrit language but also over its difficult *kāvya* style. And this need not cause any surprise, for as early as the second century A. D., we find Rudradāman, the third king of the Śaka house of Chashtāna, claiming that he was a master of Sanskrit grammar and logic and could compose both prose and poetry of a very high order.¹ The available evidence would thus show that, though foreigners, the Śakas conceived a great fascination for Sanskrit language and culture and became its patrons and devotees at least in Kāthiāwār.

The usual imprecatory verses apart, the record is in prose with the exception of two verses occurring at its fag end. The first of these gives us information about the name and family of the composer and the second one summarises the contents of the grant by mentioning once more the names of the grantor, the grantee, the village granted and the time of the grant. Since the donee speaks of himself in the first person in this verse, it may be well doubted whether it really formed part of the original record. In copper-plate charters, we do not usually come across the phenomenon of the donee himself stating at the end that he had got the grant from such and such a king on such and such an occasion. It would appear that the last verse was probably composed by the donee himself and added in the space available at the bottom of the plate.

The **orthography** calls for only a few remarks. In a conjunct of which *r* is the first member, the second letter is usually doubled; cf. *garuva* in l. 3. (2) The *anusvāra* before *śa* is indicated sometimes by a guttural nasal as in *vaśśa* in l. 7 and sometimes by the dental one as in *vaśśa* in l. 34 and in *bhranśa* in ll. 35-6. (3) The rules of *sandhi* are usually followed, but there are a few mistakes in this connection; cf. *karavālaiva* for *karavāla iva*, l. 6, *dharmmaḥ mūrttimān* for *dharmmo mūrttimān*, ll. 10-11, etc.

The copper-plates record a grant of a village made in the reign of the **Saindhava king Agguka II**, son of **Kṛishṇarāja**. The actual grantor is, however, **Jāika**, the uncle of the ruling king who was a minor when the grant was made. This is rendered quite certain by ll. 23-4 of the record, which state that though embraced by the goddess **Kamalā**, who was anxious for dalliance on his chest, **Jāika** thought that his nephew ought to be protected and reared by him. At the time of the issue of the charter, **Jāika** therefore professed to be a mere regent, administering the government on behalf of his minor nephew. **Agguka** however was a mere puppet; for the charter does not give him any legal titles whatsoever. The regent on the other hand is described with all the usual titles of a ruling feudatory. How he eventually superseded his nephew has been already discussed above in the general introduction (*ante*, p. 193).

The grant is dated; it was made in **Saṃvat 513 on the 12th day (of an unspecified month) on the occasion of Uttarāyana**. As the dates in the remaining charters of this series, when given, are expressly declared to be referring to the Gupta era, there can be no doubt whatever that the date of this charter is also to be referred to the same era. The **Uttarāyana** of 831 A. D. took place on **Pausha kṛishṇa 1**, of 832 A. D. on **Pausha kṛishṇa 12**, and of

¹ *Ante*, Vol. VIII, p. 44. *Śabdārtha-gāndharva-nyāy-ādyānām vidyānām mahatīnām pārāṇa-dhāraṇa-vijñāna-prayōg-avāpta-vipula-kīrtinā sphuṭa-laghu-madhura-chitra-kānta-śabdasaṃyōdār-ālamkṛita-yudya-padya*

833 A. D. on Pausha *krishṇa* 7. It is therefore clear that our grant was made on Pausha *krishṇa* 12 of the Gupta Saṁvat 513, which corresponds to **Sunday, the 22nd of December 832 A. D.** The date of the charter is given at its end and in numerals only. The **symbols for the numerals** are rather unusual, but a comparison with those in charter F, where the date is given both in words and in numerals, makes it quite clear that the correct reading is 513.

The grantee of the record was **Mādhava, son of Kalyāṇa**, who was a Ṛigvēdin Brāhmaṇa of the Sāṁkṛitya *gōtra* and a resident of **Sōmēśvara**, which is obviously to be identified with famous Sōmanātha. He was given the whole village of **Ḍhaṅkatīrtha** and one tenth the share of the village of **Gulamikā** in order to enable him to perform the usual Brahmanical rites and sacrifices. These villages were situated in the district of **Pachchhatrī**, which was being governed by the grantor himself. Pachchhatrī, the headquarters of the district, is probably to be identified with the modern village **Pāchhtardī**, six miles to the west of Ghumli. Ḍhaṅkatīrtha, the village granted, is obviously the same as **Dhāṅk** in Gondal state, situated about 25 miles east of Ghumli. Dhāṅk is situated on the outskirts of a hill of the same name and figures as a holy place in Jain tradition.¹ I am unable to identify Gulamikā, one tenth of whose revenues were also assigned to the donee.

A large number of officers are mentioned in this record, while the grant is being announced by the king. They are the following: 1. *Mantrī*, 2. *Purōhita*, 3. *Amātya*, 4. *Janapada*, 5. *Yuvarāja*, 6. *Rājasthānīya*, 7. *Pramātri*, 8. *Balādhikṛita*, 9. *Uparika*, 10. *Vishayapati*, 11. *Saulkika*, 12. *Dussādhasādhanika*, 13. *Chōrōddharanika*, 14. *Vaikhshēpika*, 15. *Chāra* and 16. *Bhāṭa*. All these officers are mentioned in Charters B and D also. In Charter C, Nos. 4 and 7 are omitted but *Sēnāpati* has been added; in Charter E, Nos. 1 and 2 are dropped; in Charter F, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 and 11 are not mentioned and *Dēśādhipati* has been added. Among these officers the functions of Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 16 are quite clear. No. 4 *Janapada* cannot obviously refer to people in general; it probably refers to representatives of people or members of the Janapada assembly, though one would like to have a more convincing evidence about the existence of such a body at this period. No. 6 *Rājasthānīya* means a viceroy, No. 8 *Balādhikṛita* denotes the commander-in-chief; No. 9 *Uparika* was a provincial viceroy under the Gupta administration, superior in status to *Vishayapati* or the district officer, who is here also mentioned after the *Uparika*². No. 12 *Dussādhasādhanika* probably denoted those officers of the *Chōrōddharanika* class, who were entrusted with the difficult task of apprehending dacoits and other dangerous criminals. I am unable to offer any suggestions about the function of No. 14 *Vaikhshēpika*.

Most of these officers are mentioned in charters issued by each of the three branches of the Saindhava kingdom. The original kingdom was a small one and its branches must have been quite tiny; one may therefore well doubt whether even the parent kingdom had all these officers working in its administration. This suspicion becomes stronger when we remember that in Charter F, which is the most business-like and carefully drafted document of this series, a large number of these officers are omitted. It is interesting to add that the officers dropped out in this charter are just those whose existence otherwise appears to be doubtful. One wonders whether in this small kingdom *Mantrins* would have existed as a class of officers separate from the *Amātyas*; they are omitted in this record. A viceroy presupposes a large kingdom, which the Saindhavas did not possess; *Rājasthānīya* is omitted in Charter F. There was no room for both the *Vishayapatis* and *Uparikas* in the Saindhava administration; the latter of them have been omitted in Charter F. It would therefore appear that some of the officers mentioned in

¹ *Vividhakaḷpatīrtha*, edited by Sri-Jinaprabhasuri, p. 1.

² [The office of *Uparika* has been discussed above. Vol. XXIV, p. 134 and also in the *D. R. Bhandarkar Volume*, Calcutta, 1940, pp. 231-33, where it has been explained to correspond to that of a Magistrate.—B. C. J.]

our grants did not really function in the Saindhava administration ; they are merely mentioned to make the list exhaustive.

Among the commoners to whom the grants have been announced, only Brāhmaṇas and traders are mentioned. This would show that as early as the 9th century A.D. Gujarāt and Kāthiāwār had developed their present commercial traditions and that merchants had come to be recognised as a class as important as the Brāhmaṇas. The bracketing of the Vaiśyas with the Śūdras in the Gītā and the Dharmaśāstra literature would thus be giving us not a correct idea of the position which the merchant class occupied in a commercial province like Kāthiāwār.

TEXT¹

First Plate.

- 1 ॐ² स्वस्ति [1*] स्वस्ति लकामरावतीसभर्गर्द्धिस्वर्द्धिभूताखिलिकाभिधानमगरीगरीयोपरस्व-
(सु)राद्राम-
- 2 गडलमण्डनोपरसमुद्राधिपतिरासीत्संपूर्णप्रकाशशरत्रिशाकरश्चिप्रतानविशदनिजयशोरा-
- 3 शिः(शि)श्यामत्रितमगर्व्यश्चुसामन्तसौमन्तिनोवदनारविन्दद्युतिः प्रलयकालविजृम्भितज्वलनज्वा-
लावली-
- 4 कल्याणप्रसरत्प्रतापः स्वहृदयसमोहितहितविभवदानहेलाजलाह्लादितसकल³सुहृद्लोकः सम-
- 5 ररसभरधरोद्गुरोर्जितजितप्रणतवैरिशिरोरत्नपृथग्माणस्फुरच्चरणनखमयूखखचितपा-
- 6 दपीठप्रान्तः करवालै(ल इ)वापवर्जितसहजकलङ्कशङ्कः परिवाररत्नानपेक्षितस्यष्टदृष्टशक्तिरन-
ष्टाभि-
- 7 मुखापतद्विपक्षतिष्विहामूलप्रणतीत्तरोत्तरप्रहृष्टाग्रशालिश्रीमत्सैन्यववङ्ग(वंश)शेखरः समधि-
- 8 गताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्तश्रीमदङ्गुः [1*] तस्य जननमस्यचरितवन्द्यानन्यद्विजसमूह-
मोह-
- 9 हारिहारिहृत्तपालितप्रजासमुद्भवच्छरच्छशधरकरनिकरधवल्यशोराशिराशिषां परमविसं-
- 10 वादि स्थानमास्थाननिविष्टेष्टसामन्तचक्रक्रमरत्नादाख्योदय(य)द्व्यापिकीर्त्यमानकीर्तिः साक्षादि-
वधर्मः⁴
- 11 मूर्तिमानिव निजजनपदपुण्यसम्भारः सकललोकपरिशुद्धिहेतुस्थिरसरस्वतीसङ्गतिसेव्यतया
- 12 सुचिरमचलितमर्यादो नतिजलोपिलीपितदुष्टचेष्टितः समुद्रकरणमुदहन्न-

¹ Edited from ink impressions.

² Indicated by a symbol.

³ Read either *dāna-jala-hēla-*, or *samāhlādita* instead of *jal-āhlādita*, as is done in Charters B and D. The reading of Charter E, *dāna-phala-samāhlādita* is the best.

⁴ *Sandhi* rules have not been always followed in this charter.

SIX SAINDHAVA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM GHUMLI:
A.—GRANT OF THE TIME OF AGGUKA II; [GUPTA] SAMVAT 513.

i.

1. ...
2. ...
3. ...
4. ...
5. ...
6. ...
7. ...
8. ...
9. ...
10. ...
11. ...
12. ...

ii.

14. ...
16. ...
18. ...
20. ...
22. ...
24. ...
26. ...

iii.

28. ...
30. ...
32. ...
34. ...
36. ...
38. ...
40. ...
42. ...
44. ...

Second Plate.

- 13 णेषु च चापघटितरटदटननियतगुणसङ्गिभार्गणगणप्रोत्सारितारातिरुन्मीलित-
- 14 मलमूलदुश्चरितपरिणामी रणरणकदानदक्षचक्षुर्विन्नेपो विपन्नारोणां श्रीराणकस्मृतीभवत्¹
स्यापि
- 15 चापिरिपुसार्थकदर्थनासमर्थप्रोत्सर्प्यदुत्साहभरो भरत इवाचलदुचितसमाराधितरामी भार-
तमङ्ग-
- 16 त्रि(ह)तीयपार्थ इवापार्थकीकृतजगदुदितकीर्तिदुर्धनधनुर्धरो वृकोदर इव सततरुधिरपान-
करणास्फुरणीकृत-
- 17 दुश्शासनीसकदुपहसितदुयो(यो)धनश्च सर्वतः स्वगर्वतः समुत्सारितरिपुतिमिरनिकरो दिन-
कर इव वर्धमा-
- 18 नतेजीराशिरशिशिरप्रतापसन्तापितातिट्टसपत्नयत्नः शार्ङ्गधन्वेव पृ(प्रि)यसत्योतिदूरविच्छिन्-
नरकीपद्-
- 19 वाशङ्कः शङ्कर इवाभिनन्दितपार्व्वतीयजनो जनोदितसहजपुरुषकारातिरेककरदीकृतप्रातिरा-
ज्यभूभृदुत्करः(र)
- 20 ऐक्षि कृपाणपाणिरपि रिपुभिरभिभवोद्भूतभयस(सं)भ्रान्तनयनैर्नयनैपुणसाभ(फ)ल्यप्रकटीभव-
त्पुण्यसम्भारी भा-
- 21 रतीमाधुर्यसमानन्दितसकलप्रणयिजनो जमनीचरणारविन्दवन्दनसंवर्द्धितकीर्त्तिप्रतानीतनुतनु-
शोभाभा-
- 22 विततरुणीजनमनःप्रसरो(रः) श्रीकृष्णराजाभिधानीतिधन्यस्तनयोभूत्तस्य² भ्राता वैमानो
ज्येष्ठं तत्सुतमुचितकु-
- 23 लक्ष्मागताक्रान्तसिङ्गा(सिंहा)सनमपि परित्यज्य श्रीमदगुकाख्यं ख्यातपौरुषपुरुषजयिस-
त्वधामवत्स्थलीलीलाला-
- 24 लसया कमलया निस्सङ्गमालिङ्गितो³ अयमेव निजपितृप्रवर्द्धितमदीयलालनपालनयोग्य
इति समरशत-
- 25 शातितशत्रुशौटीर्यो धैर्यनिधिरधीराणां रणेषु रञ्जिता क्षतकलिकलङ्कोकृत्रिमदानाभ्यासा-
भ्यर्ण्यीकृतकर्णवर्ण-

¹ Read -bhavat | Tasy-āpi.² Read=bhūt | Tasya.³ Read niśāṅkam=ālingitō=yam=ēva.

26 नः स्वपुषि पूषेव विकसितपद्माकरः सत्क्रियाप्रवर्तितसकललोकश्च कश्चनापरोप्येतत्स-
मोस्ति नास्तीति कौ-

27 तूहलिन्या यत्कीर्त्या जगद्भ्रम्यते स समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्तश्रीजार्दक-

Third Plate.

28 स्रव्वांनेवात्मीयान्मन्त्रि(न्त्रि)पुरोहितामात्यजनपदयुवराजराजस्थानीयप्रमादबलाधिकृतीप-

29 रिकविषयपतिशौल्लिकदुस्साधसाधनिकचोरोद्वरणिकवैद्येपिकचारभटादिसमस्तराजपुरुषा(षां)-

30 नस्त(स्त)न्निवासिब्राह्मणोत्तरान्वणिङ्गहत्तरकुटुम्बिनस्समनुबोधयत्यस्तु वः संविदितं यथा
मया स्वभुज्यमानपच्छत्रीप्रावे(दे)-

31 शिकटङ्कतीर्थाभिधानयामस्स(स्व)सीमापर्यन्तो गुलमिकाभिधानयामस्य दशान्शे(शंशे)न
सहित[!:] सीमेश्वरवास्तव्यचातु-

32 व्वेद्यसामान्यसांक्त्यसगोक्षबहुचसब्रह्मचारिब्राह्मणचतुर्वेदमाधवाय कल्याणपुत्रायोदकातिसर्गेण
हादश्या-

33 मुदगयने दत्तो बलिचरुवैश्वदेवाग्निहोत्रब्रह्मकृत्यो¹त्सर्पणार्थं मातापित्रोरात्मनश्च पुण्ययशो-
भिद्वये [!:] अतो-

34 स्येनं भुञ्जतो न केनचित्परिपन्थना कार्या [!:] भाविभिरपि नृपतिभिरस्मद्वन्श(द्वंश)-
जैरन्यैर्वा सामान्यं भूमिदानफलमभिवा-

35 ष्छद्मिनिनित्यान्यैस्वर्याणि मानुष्यकमपि प्रबलमारुताहतपद्मिनीपत्रनिहितजललवलीलमाकलय्य
दुःपरिहरभ्र(भं)-

36 न्श(श)क्षणिकञ्च जीवितमालोक्यातिप्रचुरकदर्थनासञ्चितमर्थजातमनिलसङ्गिदीपशिखाचञ्चलमा-
लोच्य वाच्यताच्य-

37 तिकामैरमलमण्डलशरदिन्दुद्युतिधवलशोवितानच्छन्नभोभागमात्मानमिच्छद्भिरतिस्वच्छमनो-
भिरात्मच्छ-

38 न्दतोयमयम²स्मद्वर्मादायोनुमन्तव्यो(व्यः) [!:] व्यासादिमुनिनिगदितभूमिहरणपापपरिपाक-
जनिताश्च यामीर्यातना म-

39 नसि निधाय पूर्वधार्मिकनृपपरिकल्पितपञ्चमहापातकसमयश्चावणाञ्च चिन्तयित्वा भूयो
भूयो याच्यमानैरिदं न प्रस्म-

¹ Read either *kṛtyō* or *kriyō*.

² The letters *yama* are repeated through inadvertence.

- 40 त्त्यं स्मृतिकारोपदिष्टं [1*] पष्टिं वर्षसहस्राणि स्वर्गे तिष्ठति भूमिदः [1*]
आच्छेत्ता चानुमन्ता च तान्येव नरके वसेत् ॥ स्वदत्तां परदत्तां वा
- 41 यो हरेत्तु वसुन्धरां(राम्) [1*] गवां शतसहस्रस्य हन्तुः प्राप्नोति किल्बि(स्त्रि)पः(षम्)
[1*] बहुभिर्वसुधा भुक्ता राजभिस्सगरादिभिः[1*] यस्य यस्य यदा भूमिस्तस्य
तस्य तदा फलं(लम्) ॥
- 42 यानीह दत्तानि पुरा नरेन्द्रैर्दानानि धर्म्मार्थयशस्कराणि [1*] निर्म्माल्यवान्तप्रतिमानि
तानि को नाम साधुः पुनराददीत ॥ विन्ध्याटवीष्वतोयासु शुष्ककोटरवासिनः[1*]
कृष्णाह-
- 43 यो हि जायन्ते ब्रह्मदायापहारकाः[1*] ॥ स्वहस्तोयं समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासा-
मन्तश्रीजार्दकस्य श्रीराणकपुत्रस्य [1*] दूतकोच महत्तमबालकविः [1*]
- 44 श्रीजार्द(इ)¹केमलयशः[1*]प्रसरामविश्वे वि(वि)श्वामितामगुरुबन्धुजने स्वराज्यं(ज्यम्) [1*]
भुज(भुज्ज)त्यदोलिखदिह स्वधिया प्रसूतो यो विक्रटाक्ष कपिलस्तिलकः शका-
नां(नाम्) ॥
- 45 श्रीजयसेनो मध्यं ग्राममदादृङ्कतीर्थनामानं(नम्) [1*] गुलमयिकाग्रामदशान्श(शांश)सहित-
मतिभक्तिरुदगयने ॥ संव ५०० १० ३

B.—Grant of king Jāika I.

This grant has been written on a set of **two copper-plates**, which have been inscribed on one side only. ² The plates have two holes near the edge, intended for the two rings to secure them together. Only one of these rings has been preserved and its ends have been soldered together and impressed with a **seal** with the emblem of the fish, which was the insignia of the dynasty. The weight of the plates together with the ring and the seal is 348½ *tolas*. The size of each plate is 13½" × 10".

There are 18 lines on the first plate and 19 on the second. The engraving has been nicely done and the duct of the handwriting is graceful. The **characters** and **language** of this charter are similar to those of Charter A. The record is in prose with the exception of the imprecatory stanzas, and the concluding verse, which is identical with the penultimate verse of Charter A. The **composer** of this record is the same **Śaka Sanskrit poet Kapila**, who had drafted Charter A.

As far as **orthography** is concerned, attention may be drawn to the occurrence of *upadhmanīya* in ll. 30 and 35 in the expressions *duḥparihara*² and *hantuḥ prāpnōti* respectively.

The charter records a village-grant made by **Mahāsāmanta Jāika I**, son of king **Rānaka**. He is identical with the same person who had issued Charter A as regent for his nephew, Agguka I, who was then the *de jure* king. In the genealogy of this grant, however, there is no reference to Agguka or his father who was the elder brother of Jāika I, both of whom were expressly mentioned as the occupants of the Saindhava throne in Charter A. The reason is not

¹ The shortening of *i* is required for metrical reasons; the correct spelling is Jāika.

² [The same occurs also in Charter A. l. 35. The form should, however, be *duḥparihara*.—Ed.]

far to seek. We have already seen how Jāika I had almost become a *de jure* king in Gupta Śaṁvat 513, when Charter A was issued. By the time of the issue of the present charter, the usurpation was complete, and Jāika must have issued instructions to his secretariate that the names of his elder brother and his son should be eliminated from future copper-plate genealogies in order to remove all traces of his usurpation from the ken of the posterity.

The present charter is not dated, but for reasons already explained above in the general introduction (*ante*, pp. 193-194), its time of issue will probably be as early as 515 G. E. (834-5 A. D.)

The grantee is a Sāmavēdin Brāhmaṇa of the Vatsa *gōtra*, **Bhaṭṭasvāmika** by name, who was a son of **Kulachandra**. The revenues of the village of **Dadhipadraka** were assigned to him in order to enable him to perform the usual scriptural sacrifices without feeling any anxiety for his livelihood.

The village **Dadhipadraka** was situated in the district of **Pachhchatrī**, which is the same as **Pāchhtardī**, 6 miles west of Ghumli, as shown already. The boundaries of Dadhipadraka have been given and they enable us to state that the village has either disappeared or changed its name to **Deolia**, which is now a village 13 miles north-east of Ghumli. For to the east and north of this village are the river **Varatu** and the village **Shedkāi** respectively which are obviously identical with the river **Varatrōyi** and the village **Sēdhākāikā**, which also were to the east and north of the village Dadhipadraka, which was granted to the donee. **Bhillamāla**, which was the original place of residence of the donee is to be identified with modern **Bhinmal**, which is 80 miles to the north of Patan and 40 miles to the east of Mt. Abu.

The occasion of the gift was the performance of the *Pushyasnāna* ceremony by the king. From the *Bṛihatsaṁhitā* of Varāhamihira we learn that this ritual was recommended to kings by astrologers of old for the purpose of averting disaster and promoting prosperity, both of themselves and of their kingdom¹. A number of deities were invited at the bath, which was given usually at a holy place. The water was mixed with numerous medicinal and auspicious drugs. Any day of the month, when the moon was in the lunar mansion of Pushya, could be selected for the purpose; but the most suitable time was the full-moon day of the month of Pausha. It is most probable that Jāika II utilised the first Pausha month after his usurpation for this purpose in order to avert the possible visitation of divine wrath at his unjustifiable conduct.

TEXT.²

First Plate.

- 1 ॐ³ स्वस्ति [।*] स्वस्ति लकामरावती सन्भवर्द्धिस्वर्द्धिभूताम्बि(म्बि)लिकाभिधाननगरीगरीयोप-
रसुराष्ट्रमण्डलम-
- 2 एहोपरममुद्राधिपतिरासीत्संपूर्णप्रकाशशरन्निशाकररश्मिप्रतानविशदनिजयशोराशिः(शि)श्याम-

¹ नास्ति लोके स उत्पत्ती यो ह्यनेन न ज्ञायते । संगलं चापरं नास्ति यदस्मादतिरिच्यते ॥

अधिराज्यार्थिनी राशः पुत्रजन्म च कांचितः । तत्पूर्वमभिषेके च विधिरप्यप्रशस्यते ॥

Chap. 48, 84-5.

² From ink-impressions.

³ Indicated by a symbol.

- 3 लितसगर्वशक्षुसामन्तसीमन्तिनीवदनारविन्दद्युतिः प्रलयकालविजृम्भितज्वलनज्वालावलीकल्पा-
नल्पप्रसर-
- 4 व्यतापः स्वहृदयसमीहितहितविभवदानहेलासमाह्लादितसकलसुहृल्लोकः समररसभरधरोद्गु-
रोर्ज्जितजित-
- 5 प्रणतवैरिशिरोरत्नधृत्थमाणस्फुरच्चरणखमयृस्वखचितपादपीठप्रान्तः करवालै(ल इ)वापवर्जि-
तसहजकल-
- 6 क्लृप्तः परिवाररक्षानपेक्षितस्पष्टदृष्टशक्तिरनष्टाभिमुखापतद्विपक्षक्षितिष्विहामूलप्रणतोत्तरोत्तरप्र-
वृद्धा-
- 7 अशालित्रीमत्स्यैववङ्ग(वंश)शेखरः स समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्तश्रीमदङ्गुकः [1*]
तस्य जननमस्यचरितवंद्या-
- 8 निन्द्यद्विजसमूहमोहहारिहारिवृत्तपालितप्रजासमुद्भवच्छरच्छशधरकरनिकरधवल्यशोराशिराशिषां
पर-
- 9 मविसंवादि स्थानमास्थाननिविष्टेष्टसामन्तचक्रक्रमरक्षादाक्ष्योदय(द्य)इयापिकीर्त्यमानकीर्त्तिः
साक्षादिव धर्मः(र्भो)
- 10 मूर्त्तिमानिव निजजनपदपुण्यसम्भारः सकललोकपरिशुद्धिहेतुस्थिरसरस्वतीसङ्गतिसेव्यतया
सुचिरमच-
- 11 लितमर्यादो नतिजलोपिलोपितदुष्टचेष्टितः समुद्रकरणमुद्बहव्रणेषु च चापघटितगददटनि-
नियत-
- 12 गुणसङ्गिभार्गवगणप्रोत्सारितारातिरुन्मीलितमलमूलदुश्चरितपरिणामी रणरणकदानदक्षचक्षु-
र्विच्छेपो
- 13 विपक्षनारीणां श्रीराणकस्मृतोभवत्¹स्थापि चापिगुप्तार्थकदर्थनासमर्थप्रोत्सर्पदुत्साहसभरो²
भरत इ-
- 14 वाचलदुचितसमाराधितरामी भारतमन्त्रि(ट)तीयपार्थ इवापार्थकीकृतजगदुदितकीर्त्तिदुर्द्ध-
रधनुर्द्धरो वृकी-
- 15 दर इव सततरुधिरपानकरणास्फुरणीकृतदुश्शासनोसक्तदुपहसितदुर्योधनश्च सर्व्वतः स्वगर्व्वतः
समुत्सारित-

¹ The usual punctuation mark at the end of the sentence is omitted here.

² Read *utsāha-bharō*.

- 16 रिपुतिमिरनिकरी दिनकर इव वर्द्धमानतेजोराशिरशिशिरप्रतापसन्तापितातिदृप्तसपत्नयत्नः
शार्ङ्गधन्वेव प्रियसत्थी-
- 17 तिट्ठरविच्छिन्ननरकीपट्टवाशङ्कः शङ्कर इवाभिनन्दितपार्वतीयजनो जनोदितसहजपुरुषकारा-
तिरेककरदोक्त-
- 18 तप्रातिराज्यभूभृदुत्करः(र) ऐच्छि कृपाणपाणिरपि रिपुभिरभिभवोद्भूतभयसंभ्रान्तनयनैर्नयनैपुण-

Second Plate.

- 19 साफल्यप्रकटीभवत्पुण्यसम्भारो भारतीमाधुर्यसमानन्दितसकलप्रणयिजनो जननीचरणार-
- 20 विन्दवन्दनसंवर्द्धितकीर्त्तिप्रतानोतनुतनुशोभाभाविततरुणीजनमनःप्रसरस्त्रस(म)धिगताशेषमहा-
शब्द-
- 21 महासामन्तश्रीजार्ङ्गकस्त्रवर्वानिवाल्मीयान्मन्त्रि(न्त्रि)पुरोहितामात्यजनपदयुवराजराजस्थानीयप्रमातृ-
वला-
- 22 धिक्कृतोपरिकविप्रयपतिशौलिकदुस्साधसाधनिकचीरोडरणिकवैचेपिकचारभटादिसमस्तराजपु-
रुषा(पां)-
- 23 नस्त(स्त)न्निवासित्राह्मणीत्तरान्वणिङ्गहत्तरकुटुम्बि(म्बि)नस्त्रमनुबोधयत्यस्तु वस्त्रंविदितं यथा
मया स्वभुज्यमानपच्छ-
- 24 क्षौप्रावे(दे)शिकपूर्वप्रसिद्धदधिपद्राभिधानयस्त्रमस्त्र(स्त्र)सीमापर्यन्तस्त्राघाटश्च तत्र चाघाट-
नानि । यत्र पूर्वतो वर-
- 25 क्षौपी नदी दक्षिणतश्चोष्णाणकाभिधानो भट्टग्रामः पश्चिमतस्त्रेष्टूरकग्राम उत्तरतोपि
ब्राह्मणग्रामः .
- 26 सेढाखाइका चग्रा(चाय)हार[.।*] एवं समस्त्राघाटपरिच्छिन्नः श्रीभिन्नमालवास्तव्यतच्चा-
तुर्व्वयसामान्यवत्स-
- 27 समीक्षच्छान्दीगसन्नचारित्राह्मणभट्टस्त्रामिकाय कुलचन्द्रपुत्रायोदकातिसर्गेण पुण्यस्त्रानविधौ
- 28 दत्तो बलिचरुवैश्वदेवाग्निहोत्रब्रह्मकथो¹त्सर्पणार्थं मातापितृरात्मनश्च पुण्यश्रीभिद्वय [।*]
अतोस्त्रे(स्त्रै)नं भुञ्जतो न के-

¹ Read either *kṛtyō* or *kriyō*.

B.—GRANT OF KING JAIIKA II.

i.

2
 4
 6
 8
 10
 12
 14
 16
 18

ii.

[illegible]

- 29 नचित्परिपत्यना कार्या [1*] भाविभिरपि नृपतिभिरस्मद्वन्श(द्वंश)जैरन्यैर्वा सामान्यं
भूमिदानफलमभिवाञ्छद्भिरनित्यान्यैश्चर्याणि मा-
- 30 नुत्थकमपि प्रबलमारुताहतपद्मिनीपत्ननिहितजललवलोलमाकलय्य दुःपरिहरभन्श(भंश)-
क्षणिकञ्च जीवितमालोक्या-
- 31 तिप्रचुरकदर्शनासञ्चितमर्थजातमनिलसङ्गिदोषशिखाचञ्चलमालोच्य वाच्यताच्युतिकामैरमल-
मण्डलशरदिन्दु-
- 32 तिधवलयशोवितानच्छन्नभोभागमात्मानमिच्छद्भिरतिस्वच्छमनोभिरात्मच्छन्दतीयमयम¹स्मद्वन्श-
दायोनुमन्तव्यो(व्यः) [1*] व्यासादि-
- 33 सुनिनिगदितभूमिहरणपापपरिपाकजनिताश्च यामीर्यातना मनसि निधाय पूर्वधार्मिक-
नृपपरिकल्पितपञ्चमहापा-
- 34 तकसमयश्रावणाञ्च चिन्तयित्वा भूयो भूयो याच्यमानैरिदं न प्रस्मर्त्तव्यं स्मृतिकारोप-
दिष्टं(ष्टम्) [1*] षष्टिं वर्षसहस्राणि स्वर्गे तिष्ठति भूमिदः ।
- 35 आच्छेत्ता चानुमन्ता च तान्येव नरके वसेत् ॥ स्वदत्तां परदत्तां वा यो हरेत्
वसुन्धरां(राम्) । गवां शतसहस्रस्य हन्तुः प्राप्नोति किल्बिषं(षम्) ॥ स्वहस्तो-
- 36 यं समधिगतशिषमहाशब्दमहासामन्तश्रीजार्दकस्य [1*] तदादिष्टदूतकोत्त प्रतिहारकणः
[1*] श्रीजार्द(इ)केमलयशःप्रसरास-
- 37 विश्वे त्रिं(वि)श्वासितामगुरुवन्धुजने स्वराज्यं(ज्यम्) [1*] भुजत्यदोलिखदिह स्वधिया प्रसूतो
यो विक्कटात्स कपिलस्तिलकः शकानां(नाम्) ॥

C.—An incomplete grant of King Rāpaka.

This charter was originally engraved on two plates, but only the first of them has been recovered. It is much bigger in size than the other plates of this find, being $16\frac{5}{8}'' \times 12\frac{1}{4}''$ in dimensions. Its weight is $317\frac{1}{4}$ tolas, which is almost equal to the combined weight of the three plates of Charter A. There are two holes at the bottom intended for the two rings for holding the plates together. The second plate as well as the two rings are untraceable.

There are 22 lines engraved on this plate. The engraving on no other plates of this set is so shabby, slipshod and careless as that on this plate. Every line teems with mistakes and consideration of space renders their enumeration impossible here. They can be seen in the text and the appended footnotes. Apart from mistakes of engraving, there are mistakes of pronunciation

¹ Letters *yama* have been wrongly repeated.

² The shortening of *i* is required for metrical purpose. The real spelling is *Jāika*.

like *shyāmalita* for *śyāmalita* in l. 2, *sunū* for *sūnu* in l. 11, *jasō* for *yaśō* in l. 1, *yanō* for *janō* in l. 7, etc. Then there are mistakes of grammar, too, like *samabhavaḥ* for *samabHAVat* in ll. 10-11. The draftsman also has made his own humble contribution to the prevailing chaos by framing a sentence at the end of the plate (ll. 18-22), the syntax of which is very defective.

The form of some characters of this record is considerably different from that of the Charters A and B. *Ma* and *na* are quite indistinguishable; cf. *sīmantiṇi* in l. 2. The forms of the characters *ga* and *sa* are also somewhat different from those in Charters A and B. There are two forms of *ha*; both of them can be seen in the word *mahāmahindhra* in l. 14.

The record contains a grant of *Mahāsāmanta Rāṇaka*, who was a son of king *Agguka* and a grandson of king *Kṛishṇarāja*. In his *Report on Twelve Copper-plate Inscriptions found at Ghumli*, M. M. Shastri Hathibhai Harishanker has advanced the view that *Rāṇaka*, the grantor of this plate, should be identified with *Rāṇaka*, the father of *Jāika I*, who according to the genealogy given in Charter F, was a son of *Agguka* and grandson of *Kṛishṇarāja*. He therefore regards this charter as the earliest of the present set. It is also possible to argue that the unusually large size of the copper-plate might probably indicate that it belongs to an earlier period, when the size of the copper-plates of its charters was not yet standardised by the secretariate of the dynasty. This argument is of course not very strong.

In view of the genealogical data of Charter F, the above view undoubtedly appears as the most plausible one, but there are serious difficulties in accepting it. A comparison of the text of the present charter with that of Charters A and B makes it clear that it presupposes the knowledge of the latter and is based upon them. Thus the expression *hēl-āhlādita-sakala-suhṛil-lōkaḥ* in l. 3 of the present charter gives no meaning whatsoever; it is an unintelligent abbreviation of *śva-hṛidaya-samihita-hita-vibhava-dāna-hēlā-samāhlādita-sakala-suhṛil-lōkaḥ* of Charters A and B, l. 4; similarly *karavāla ivā parivāra-nirapēkshaḥ* in l. 5 of this charter presupposes a knowledge of *karavāla ivāpavarjita-sahaja-kalaṅka-śaṅkaḥ parivāra-raksh-ānupēkshita-spaṣṭa-dṛiṣṭa-śaktiḥ* of Charter A, l. 6 and Charter B, ll. 5 and 6. The present charter is thus later than Charters A and B, and cannot be therefore attributed to *Rāṇaka*, the father of the donor of Charter B, though the names of his father and grandfather were *Agguka* and *Kṛishṇarāja* respectively.

It is no doubt possible to rebut the force of the above argument by contending that the present charter does not presuppose a knowledge of Charters A and B, but that all of them are based upon a still earlier grant, which served as the prototype for all the three charters. This contention is however purely hypothetical and will continue to remain so, till an earlier grant is actually discovered and shown to be the prototype of the drafts of the three charters.

There is another and a more serious objection to M. M. Shastri's view. If we accept it, the approximate time of king *Rāṇaka*, the donor, would be 794-814 A.D.¹ Now the concluding five lines of the record would show that queen *Kshēmēśvarī* was his wife. This *Kshēmēśvarī* was very probably either a daughter or a sister² of the *Chāpa* king *Kshēmarāja* or *Kshēmēśvara*, the son of *Yōgarāja*, who is traditionally known to have ruled from 841 to 880 A.D.³ It is not very likely that a daughter or a sister of a king, who was ruling from c. 841 to 880 A.D., could have been married to another whose reign period is known to be c. 794 to 814 A.D. *Kshēmēśvara* was no

¹ *Ante*, p. 196. See the genealogical table.

² Kings *Harshagupta* and *Mahāsēnagupta* of the later Gupta dynasty had sisters named *Harshaguptā* and *Mahāsēnaguptā* respectively.

³ *Prabandhachintāmaṇi*, p. 14 (Singhi Jain Granthamala ed.).

doubt a man of about 40 at the time of his accession, but even this circumstance does not render the marriage of a daughter or a sister of his with Rāṇaka possible.

If Rāṇaka, the donor of our charter is not the same as Rāṇaka, the father of Jāika I, as suggested by the genealogy in Charter F, with whom then are we to identify him? The answer to this question is supplied by the data in Charter A. That charter was issued by Jāika as regent, when Agguka, the son of his half-brother Kṛishṇarāja, was ruling as a minor. Rāṇaka, the grantor of our plate, was a son of this Agguka. It would be seen that the names of his father and grandfather were Agguka and Rāṇaka respectively, as was the case with the grantor of our plate. A glance at the genealogical and chronological table given on p. 196 shows that the approximate time of the rule of this Rāṇaka was A.D. 859 to 879. It was thus possible for him to marry Kshēmēśvarī who was presumably a daughter of the Chāpa king Kshēmarāja, since the latter is known to have ruled from c. 841 to 880 A.D.

As against the view here proposed, it is possible to argue that it requires us to suppose that the Saindhava kingdom, which was already very small, was divided into as many as three branches during the latter part of the 9th century A.D. Known facts about divisions and subdivisions of kingdoms in India would show that there was nothing very unusual in it. The testimony of Charter F would further show that our hypothesis is almost inevitable; for ll. 5 and 6 of that charter show that during the latter half of the 9th century the Saindhava family-tree had a number of branches (*śākhā-saichaya*). We should not therefore be surprised if the data available at present showed that there were three branches ruling simultaneously at that time.

It is interesting to note that the claim to the overlordship of western Saurāshṭra has not been advanced in this charter on behalf of the grantor, as has been done in the remaining charters of this set. This was probably due to the fact that after the usurpation of Jāika I, the branch of Kṛishṇarāja, though representing the senior line, was reduced to a humble status and did not wield much power and influence. To judge from the present charter, it would appear that it could not command the services of good poets and engravers also. The literary scholars of the day seem to have preferred the patronage of Jāika and his descendants, who had become the leading members of the Saindhava family.

The present charter is not dated, but since the grantor was a son of Agguka II, who was a minor in 513 G. E., we may presume that it may have been issued in c. 550 G. E. If the grant was in memory of a departed queen of the donor, as seems to be the case, then its date may probably be about a decade later. The present charter was thus very probably granted in the same decade in which Charter D, dated 555 G. E., was issued.

The charter records the donation of the village **Bhēṭālikā** situated in the district of **Pachchhatrī**. The name of the donee does not occur in the first plate, which alone has been so far recovered. The concluding four lines of the first plate contain a part of the record, which described its object. Besides being incomplete, this portion is rather obscure, and so we cannot get a definite idea on the subject. If the emendations suggested by me in the text are correct, the record would seem to sanction a grant for the purpose of erecting a temple in memory of queen Kshēmēśvarī, who appears to have married the donor in a *svayamvara*. Or, it may be that the grant was made at the request of queen Kshēmēśvarī; this alternative, however, appears to me as less probable.

As observed already, Kshēmēśvarī was very probably a daughter of king Kshēmarāja of the Chāpa dynasty, who was a western neighbour of king Rāṇaka and ruling almost contemporaneously with him. M. M. Shastri has advanced a curious suggestion in this connection; he thinks that Kshēmēśvarī may have been a queen of Chāpa king Kshēmēśvara of **Aṇahilapattana**, living

at Ghumli in separation from him.¹ There is nothing in the record to bear out this suggestion. The concluding sentence is no doubt difficult to construe; but it is almost certain that the word *ātmiyāyāḥ* in l. 18 has to be construed with *rājñi-Kshēmēśvaryāḥ* in l. 22; Kshēmēśvari was thus a queen of the donor. L. 19 describes her as superior to thousands of women in her character. She therefore was not likely to be a lady living in a kind of judicial separation from her husband; such women were held in contempt by Hindu society. In ll. 21-22, the donor is referring to her constancy to the marriage vow taken in the presence of the sacred fire. She must therefore have been his own wife, and not the wife of a contemporary of his living in separation at his capital.

The village granted was Bhēṭālikā, situated in the district of Pachchhatrī. As its boundaries are not given, it is difficult to identify it with certainty. M. M. Shastri has suggested that it should be identified with **Vaḍāla**, which is now a railway station on the Junagad State Railway, about 7 miles north of Junagad.² There is, however, another village named **Bhāṭāla**, about 24 miles north-north-east of modern Pāchhtardī, whose name has a greater phonetic resemblance to that of Bhēṭālikā. It is more probable that this may have been the village granted.

TEXT.³

First Plate.

- 1 ॐ⁴ स्वस्ति [।*] भूताम्बि(म्बि)लिकातः [।*] आशी(सी)त्संपूर्णप्रकाशशरनि(त्रि)शा-
कररश्मीं(श्मि)प्रतानविष(श)दनिषजसो(निजयशो)-
- 2 राशित्था(श्या)मलितसमस्तशत्रुसामंतसीमंतिनोवदस्त्रा⁵रविन्दु(न्द)द्युतिः प्रलयकालविजृम्भितज्व-
- 3 लनज्वालावलीकल्पप्रु(प्र)तापप्रसर(रो) हेलाह्लादितसकलसुहृद्भोक्तः प्रणमदु(दू)र्जितानेकसर-
- 4 मनिर्यितमहाभियनराजंभो⁶जिह्वतदीर्घोष्णनिश्वासपवनस्पर्श(र्श)निर्मलतरीभवन(त्र)खदर्पण-
- 5 च्छायाः(यः) पृथिव्यामाश्रयी(र्य)भूत[.]* करवालैव⁷ परिवारनिरवपेक्षः⁸ केवल एव
निर्व्वु(र्व्वू)ढानेकसमरसाहस-
- 6 महोत्सवः श्रीमत्कैश्ववंशप्रसूतः समधिगताशेषमह(हा)सामंतश्रीकृष्णराजः [।*] तस्य प्र-
- 7 थितानेकगुणगणसमाह्लादितसज्जनजनमन[.]*प्रसर[.]* केवलं जननिजभुजवीर्योपार्जितप्रणति-
यनो-⁹
- 8 प्रभुज्यमानलक्ष्मीं(क्ष्मी)विभवती(स्ती)क्षोत्स्नातकरवालनिशितहा(धा)राविस्फुरत्किरणनिवहदूरो-
त्सा-

¹ M. M. Shastri, *Report on Twelve Copper-plate Inscriptions found at Ghumli*, p. 9.

² *Ibid*, p. 14.

³ Edited from ink-impression.

⁴ Indicated by a symbol.

⁵ The letter looks like *khnā*; read *vadanā*.

⁶ Read *-samara-nirjita-mahābhijana-rājany-ō*.

⁷ Read *karavāla iva*.

⁸ The letter *va* in this word is superfluous, read *nirapēkshaḥ*.

⁹ Read *pranayī-jana-*.

SIX SAINDHAVA GRANTS
C.—AN INCOMPLETE GRANT OF KING RANAKA.



N. P. CHAKHAVARTI,
Rec. No. 2096 E'41. 290

SCALE · TWO-FIFTHS.

SURVEY OF INDIA, CALCUTTA.

- 9 रितरिपुतिमिरनिकरो बहुद्वा(धा) दुर्वारवैरिकरिक(कं)ठनिर्दलितनिपतनंदेमल¹मुक्ताफलचर्चि-
- 10 तसंग्रामभूमि² अनवरतप्रवृत्तदानाद्रीकृतकरो दिग्ज³ इवात्मजः श्रीमदगुकाभिधानः स-
- 11 मभवः(वत्) [।*] तस्य 'सुनूरनवरतनिपतन⁵च्छरशा(सी)त्कारसू(शू)न्यीकृतरिपुडरापिष्टो⁶ अनारतप्र-
- 12 ज्वलदूर्जितप्रतापानलभुष्टसकलद्विषदिन्धनसमूह[.]*] परिभ्रमःनि(मन्नि)र्मलज(य)शःप्रत्यग्रदंति-
- 13 दंतत्स(स)दावदातद(ध)वलीकृतसकलदिकु(क्)चक्रवालः संकल्पोचितफलनिकरच्छायोपे-
- 14 तो महामहिन्त्र⁷ इव प्रकामान(ने)कद्विजसमाश्रयो नाम्नाः(न्ना) समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दम-
- 15 हासामंतश्रीराणकः भू(सु)विदित[.]*] सर्वान(ने)वाल्मीयां(यान्) स्वान्मन्त्रि(न्नि)प(पु)री-
हितामात्यसेनापतियुवराज-
- 16 राजस्थानीयबलाधिकृतोपरिकविश(ष)यपतिशौक्लिकदुःसाध्यसाधनिकचोरोद्वरणिकवैचेपिकभट्ट-
(ट)चार-
- 17 भटादिसमस्तराजपुरुषांतं⁸निवासिनः ब्राह्मणोत(त्त)रा[न्*] वणिक्क(क्ष)हत्तरकुटुम्बि(म्बि)नः
समनुबोद्ध(ध)यत्यस्तु व[.]*] सं-
- 18 विदितं यथा मया स्वभुज्यमानपच्छत्रीविषयां(या)न्तःप्रा(पा)तिभेटालिकाभिधानग्रामः(म)
आत्मीयाया[.]*] प्रचुरतरविम-
- 19 लगुणगणविजितान्यस्त्रीसहस्र(सं) चरितां(तं) स्वभावचरित⁹मानसेन विचार्याव्यभिचार्यं
तीर्थ(र्थं) कौलपुत्रं(त्त)माकल-
- 20 य्य स(सं)यममवद्वा(धा)र्यार्थ्यजनपृती(प्रीति)जननमती¹⁰वृत्तमालोच्य¹¹शौचं विलोक्य सकल-
लोकम्(प्र)-

¹ Read -*nīpatad-amala*-.
² Read -*bhūmīr=anavarata*-.
³ Read *dig-gaja*.
⁴ Read *sūnu*°.
⁵ The letter *na* in this word is superfluous; read -*nīpatach-chhara*°.
⁶ Read -*dharāpīṭhō=nārata*.
⁷ Read *mahā-mahidhra*.
⁸ Read *purushāms=īan-nivāsina*.
⁹ The word *charita* is used in the sense of *tushṭa*.
¹⁰ Read -*jananam sālī*-.
¹¹ This reading is rather doubtful. The letter preceding *cham* has a faint resemblance to a defective *jay*.

21 त्यक्षा¹निष्ठतां(ता) द्व(ध)र्मिष्ठतां(ता) स्थाननियमस्य प्रसादः[*] प्रासादारोपणस्येति
कृत्वाग्निसा-

22 चिकाक्षीणप्रीतिरक्षणनिमित्त्यय³ कृतपरिणय[*]नाया राज्ञीश्वेदेमेखर्या

D.—Grant of Rāṇaka of a subordinate Saindhava branch, G. S. 555.

This grant has been engraved on a set of **two copper-plates**, each of which is $12\frac{1}{2}'' \times 9''$ in size. Near the edge of the plates there are two holes intended for the rings to secure the plates together. Only one ring has been preserved. Its ends are however not embossed with any seal. The fish emblem of the dynasty appears at the end of the inscription on the second plate. This method of putting the seal of the dynasty immediately at the end of the inscription is followed in the remaining charters of this series, as also in some other plates issued by its later members. In a way it is no doubt a better method to prevent additional matter being interpolated in the documents in the space lying vacant at the end of the record, as was done by the grantee of Charter A. The seal emblem on the ring does not prevent such a tampering with the original record.

The weight of the plates together with the ring is 331 *tolas*. 24 lines are engraved on the first plate and 22 on the second. Though the duct of the handwriting of the present charter is graceful, its engraving has been done very carelessly. As a consequence it teems with mistakes, though they are not so numerous as those in Charter C. The left side of the first plate has not been properly dressed. The engraving instrument has slipped from the engraver's hands in several places. In l. 36 however the engraver has corrected a mistake and inserted the letter *mā* (*ma*), which was accidentally omitted, just below the line near its proper place.

The observations made about the **language** and **characters** of Charter A hold good about this record also. Only a few additional remarks are necessary. The form of *na* of this record is of the normal type and differs from that in Charter B, where it can be hardly distinguished from that of *ma*. The distinction between the forms of the letters *s* and *ś* is rather, though rather subtle. The form of the letter *rtha* in *sārtha* in l. 7 is noteworthy. The mark for an *avagraha* appears in a few places, e.g., *garūṇā*=*para* in l. 1, *Duśśāsanā*=*sakṛd* in l. 9, etc., but it is omitted in most cases. The mistakes of *sandhi* are quite numerous in the record. The punctuation is very defective, the punctuation mark being unnecessarily inserted in several places, see ll. 11, 12, 16, 20, 31, 37, 38, etc.

The charter is partly in prose and partly in verse. The metrical portion consists as usual of the imprecatory verses occurring at the end, and of two verses coming thereafter giving the date of the record and the name of the composer. In ll. 30-1. there are two more verses in the *Āryā* metre,⁴ which give the names of the donees. These verses are not easy to detect, because some of the adjectives qualifying a noun in the first of them occur in the earlier prose portion. The **composer** of the record is **Vakula**, son of **Viṭṭhaka**.

¹ Read *pratyaksha-nishthā*.

² It is difficult to construe this sentence satisfactorily; I would tentatively suggest the following construction:—स्थाननियमस्य प्रसादारोपणस्य प्रसादः सकललीकप्रत्यक्षनिष्ठता धर्मिष्ठता इति कृत्वा

³ Read *-nimittīya*.

⁴ My attention was drawn to these verses by Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra.

The grantor of the present charter is **Mahāsāmanta Śrī-Rāṇaka**, who was a grandson of king **Jāika I** of Charters A and B through his son **Agguka**. Ll. 21-24 of the record inform us that **Agguka**, the father of the donor, eventually subdued the desire for pleasures, which he had long enjoyed, and decided to crown his son himself, noticing how **Lakshmī**, the goddess of Royal Fortune, had become eager to be united with his son **Rāṇaka**, who had become quite capable of bearing the burden of administration. The coronation of the son took place in the lifetime and under the supervision of the father. How **Agguka**, the father of **Rāṇaka**, was probably not the eldest son of his father **Jāika I**, and how his abdication in favour of his son was probably due, less to *vairāgya* and more to an apprehension that his elder brother **Chāmuṇḍarāja** may resume his principality after his death, has been already shown in the general introduction (*ante*, pp. 193-194).

The date of the present charter is given in words in l. 44; we are told that it was issued when five hundred and fifty-five years of the **Gaupta-samaya** had elapsed. As the name and day of the month are not given, the precise date cannot be ascertained. We can only say that it was issued sometime in A.D. 874-5.

The village granted by the charter was **Pippalapadra**, situated in the district of **Suvarṇa-maṇjari**. Half of its revenues were assigned to a group of temples dedicated to **Hari**, **Hari-daśva** (the sun), **Vināyaka** and the **Divine Mothers**, which were erected on the outskirts of the city by **Śivarudra**, who was a *karpaṭin*, i.e., an ascetic dressed in rags. The donee of the other half of the village is curiously enough not specified. We are told that it was assigned to *kasmaichin=maṭha-patayē*, to a certain head of a *maṭha*. This *maṭha-pati* was probably not the chief priest in charge of the temple, where these deities were installed; for then the wording should have been *etan=maṭha-patayē*.¹ L. 32 also refers to the separate enjoyment of the property by the group of the temples and the chief of the *maṭha*. The chief of the *maṭha* was also to utilise the property for the upkeep of the temple and its worship; he was therefore associated probably with another temple. Like numerous temples and *maṭhas* of the medieval period in South India, this *maṭha* may also have been a religious and educational establishment; our record, however, has nothing to say on the point.

Of the places mentioned in this grant, **Pippalapadra**, the village granted, must have been one of the numerous villages in western **Kāthiāwār** which bears at present the name of **Piplia**. It is not possible definitely to identify **Suvarṇamaṇjari** the headquarters of the district in which this village was situated. It may be one of the villages bearing the name **Sonpur**, which exists at present in northern **Kāthiāwār**. Or, it may be the village **Sōnwāriā**, which is 12 miles north-east of **Ghumli**. The latter identification looks phonetically more probable, but there is one circumstance going against it. The village **Dadhipadraka**, given in Charter B, was so close to **Sōnwāriā**, that one would expect it to be located in **Suvarṇamaṇjari** district, and not in **Pachchhatrī** district as that charter states. I am unable to identify **Dēṇḍanibhaṭṭa** village, to which the first donee belonged.

TEXT.²

First Plate.

1 ॐ³ स्वस्ति [!]^{*} स्वस्तिकामरावतीसंभवर्द्धिसर्द्धिभूतांबिलिकाभिधाननगरीगरीयोपरसु-
राष्ट्रमण्डलमण्ड-

¹ An alternative reading *etan-maṭh-ādhipatayē* would have suited the exigencies of the metre as well.

^{*} From ink-impressions.

³ Indicated by a symbol.

- 2 नोपरसमुद्राधिपतिरासीत्संपूर्णप्रकाशशरश्मिशाकररश्मिप्रतानविशदनिया(ज)यशोराशिः(शि)श्या-
मलितसगर्वश-
- 3 क्षुसामन्तसीमन्तिनीवदनारविन्दद्युतिः प्रलयकालविजृम्भितज्वलनज्वालावलीकल्याणप्रसरत्प-
तापः स्वह-
- 4 दयसमीहितहितविभयदानहेलासमाह्लादितसकलसुहृल्लोकः समररसभरधरोद्गुरोर्जितजितप्रण-
तवैरिशिरो-
- 5 रा(र)ब्रष्टृथमाणंस्फुरच्चरणनखमयूखचितपादपौठप्राप्तः करवाल इवापवर्जितसहजकलङ्क-
शङ्कः प-
- 6 विवाररत्नानपेक्षितस्यष्टदृष्टशक्तिरनष्टाभिमुखापतद्विपक्षक्षितिष्विहामूलप्रणतोत्तरोत्तरप्रवृत्तायशा-
लिञ्ची-
- 7 मत्स्यववंशशेखरः समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्तश्रीजार्दकः [1*] सुतोभवत्तस्यापि
चापिरिपुसार्थकदर्थ-
- 8 नासमर्थः प्रोक्षर्पदुष्काहभरो भरत इवाचलदुचितचरितसमाराधितरामो भारतमल्लस्तृ(त्)-
तीयः(य)पार्थ इवापार्थकीक-
- 9 तजगदुदितकीर्त्तिः(र्त्ति)दुर्ध्वधनुर्वरो वृकोदर इव सततरुधिरपानकरणास्फुरणीकृतदुःशास-
नोऽसक्तदपसहि(हसि)तदुर्योधन-
- 10 च । सर्व्वतः स्वगर्व्वतः समुत्कारितरिपुतिमिरनिकरो दिनकर इव प्रवर्द्धमानतेजोरा-
शिरशिशिरप्रतापसंतापिताति-
- 11 दृप्तसामन्तसपत्नयत्रः शार्ङ्ग(ङ्ग)धन्वेव¹ पृ(प्रि)यसत्योति[दूर*]विक्षिप्तनरकोपद्रवशङ्कः ।²
शङ्कर इवाभिनन्दितपार्व्वतीयजनो ज-
- 12 नोदितसहजपुरुषकारातिरेककरदीकृतप्रातिराज्यभूष्टदुत्करः ।² ऐक्षि कृपाणपाणिभिरपि रिपु-
भिरभिभवोद्भू(द्भू)तसन्धा-
- 13 न्तनयनैर्नयनैपुणसाफल्यप्रकटीभवत्पुण्यसंभारः(रो) भारतीसमानन्दितप्रणयिजनो जननीचरणा-
रविन्दवन्दनस(सं)-
- 14 स्व(व)र्द्धितकीर्त्तिप्रतानोऽतनुतनुशोभाभाविततरुणीजनमनःप्रसरः समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहा-
सामन्तश्रीमदगुकः [1*]

¹ What looks like a medial ā sign here is due to the slipping of the instrument.

² The *daṇḍa* is unnecessary here.

- 15 तस्माच्च शक्तियुतः शंकरादिव शिखिवाहनः श्रुतिविशुद्धमानसी मुरारिनाभिपद्मादिवः(व)
कमलयोनिः सकललोकलोच-
- 16 नानन्दकरः क्षीरसागरादिव रजनिकरः कलिकलङ्कमलिनीकृतं कृतयुगसंभवं सच्चरित-
चित्रमिवोन्मूलयितुं ।¹ धर्मादिवाजा-
- 17 तश्चः समुत्पन्नः(त्रः) समासवप्रणयिजनो(न)मनःसमीहितार्थसकललोकसंपादनक्षमः क्षत्रि-
(पि)तविपक्षव(व)ध्वमललोचना-
- 18 नवरताश्रुजलसंताप²शमितकोपानलप्रसरो निरतिशयनिश्चितनिस्तं(स्त्रिं)श्रविद्युल्लतापरिक्षिप्तवर्ष्मि-
रिपुमेघवन्द-
- 19 स्यन्दद³नवरतरक्तोदबिन्दुधार(रा)सारतयासक्तदुपदर्शिताकालजलदहृष्टिविभ्रमोनभ्रदोषापगमा-
सादितोदयो भा-
- 20 नुरिवानुरक्तमण्डलो विपक्षभूभृन्मस्तकन्यस्तसान्द्रारुणपादश्च ।⁴ मेरुविव स्थितिमान(न्) ।⁴
विबुधजनानन्दितमानसश्च
- 21 स्वादुजलोदन्वानिव गभीरो मधुररसाशंसितगुणसमृद्धिश्च । यश्च जीवि(व)तैव पित्रा
चिरक(का)लोपभुक्तानां विषय(या)-
- 22 णां निवृत्ताभिलाषेण सांप्रतमयमेवाखण्डलसमानधामा महावराह इव भुवो मण्डल-
भरधुरां वोढु(ढुं) स-
- 23 मर्थ इति मन्यमानेन तत्समागमोत्कण्ठितां च राजलक्ष्मी(क्ष्मीं) परिकलयता समक्षि-
(मुत्क्षि)प्तमङ्गलकलशेन स्वपाणि-
- 24 नाभिषिञ्च सिद्धा(सिंहा)सनमधिरोपितः समधिगताशेषम[हा*]शब्दमहासामन्तश्रीराणकः
सर्वा-

Second Plate.

- 25 नेवात्मीयाभ्रं त्रिपुरोहितामात्यजनपदयुवराजराजस्थानीयप्रमात्रि(व)बलाधिकृतोपरिक-
- 26 विषयपतिशौक्लिकदुःसाधसाधनिकचोरोद्धरणकवैद्येपिकचारभटादिसमस्तराजपुरुषान्(षां)-
- 27 त(स्त)न्निवामिब्राह्मणोत्तरा⁵न्वणिक्रहत्तरकुटुम्बिनः समनुबोधयत्यस्तु वः संबिदितं यथा
मया स्वभुज्यमानसुकर्ण-
- 28 मंजरीविषयसंगृहीतपिप्पलपद्राभिधानयामस्वार्द्धममुना देण्डनीभट्टग्रामभुवा भट्टशंखधर-
पीचेण पू-

¹ The *danda* is unnecessary here.

² Read *-sarpāta*.

³ The correct form is *syundamāna*.

⁴ The *danda* is unnecessary.

⁵ Between the letters *ta* and *rā*, there is space for one letter, where probably a letter was first engraved and then erased.

- 29 एणसूनुना वसिष्ठगोत्रेण बह्वचसब्रह्मचारिणा शिवरुद्राभिधानेन कर्पटिना बाह्यालोपरि-
सरमनु सन्नि[वे*]-
- 30 शिताभ्यः ।¹
हरिहरिदशविनायकमाहभ्यो भक्तिभारमुद्धता ।
दत्तं करभोगयुतं सहदण्डदशापराधं चा(च) ।[1*1]
अस्यैवा-
- 31 परमर्द्धं ग्रामस्य तथै[व*] करभरीपेतं(तम्) ।
कस्मैचिन्मठपतये देवालयपालनारतये ।[12*]
एवमिमं स[म*]स्तमपि ग्रामं भुञ्ज-
- 32 तो देवकुलानां मठस्य वाप्युपकनसरस च² खण्डस्फुटितादिमांसाच³माचरती न केन-
चिद्देशाधिपतिना परिपंथ-
- 33 ना कार्या । भाविभिरपि भद्रनृपतिभिरक्षदंशजैरन्यैर्वा सामान्यं भूमिदानफलमवगच्छद्भिः-
(द्भि)रनित्यान्यैश्चर्याणि ।⁴
- 34 मानुष्यकमपि प्रबलमारुताहतपद्मिनीपत्रनिहितजललोलमाकलय्य दुःप(दुष्प)रिहरभ्रंशं
क्षणिकञ्च जीवि-
- 35 तमालीक्यातिप्रचुरकदर्यनासंचितमर्थजातमनिलसंगिदीपशिखाचंचलमालीक्य ।⁴ वाच्यतायुति-
कामैरम-
- 36 लमण्डलशरदिन्दुद्युतिधवलशोवितानच्छत्रनभोभागमात्मानमिच्छद्विरतिस्वच्छमा⁵(म)नोभिरात्म-
हं(च्छं)दतीयमस्म-
- 37 हर्मदायोतुं(नु)मन्तव्यः ।⁴ व्यासादिमुनिनिगदितभूमिहरणपरिपाकजनिताश्च यातना मनसि
निधाय पूर्वधार्मिक-
- 38 नृपपरिकल्पितपञ्चमहापातकसमयश्रावणां च चिन्तयित्वा भूयो भूयो याच्यमानैरिदं
न प्रसन्नत्वं ॥⁴ छु-
- 39 तिकारोपदिष्टं(ष्टम्) ॥ षष्टिं वर्षसहस्राणि स्वर्गं तिष्ठति भूमिदः । आच्छेना(त्ता)
चानुमन्ता च तान्येव नरके वसेत् ॥[3*] स्वदत्तां परदत्तां वा

¹ This punctuation mark is intended to separate the preceding prose portion from the following two verses.

² Read *rāpy-uparāna-sarasām cha*.

³ For *-māmsnācha°*, read *satīnskāra°*.

⁴ This punctuation mark is unnecessary.

⁵ This letter *mā (ma)*, which was left out, has been later engraved below the line under the letter *nō*.

- 40 यो हरेतु(त्तु) वसुधरां(राम्) । गवां शतमहस्य हतुः(न्तुः) प्राप्नोति नि(कि)ल्वि(ल्वि)-
षं(षम्) ॥[४*] विम्याटवोष्वतोयासु शुष्ककोटरवामिनः । कृष्णाह-
- 41 योभिजायन्ते देवदायापहारकाः ॥[५*] लोहचूर्णीश्मचूर्णं च विषञ्च जरयेन्नरः ।
ब्रह्मस्वं त्रिषु लोकेषु कः पुमाञ्ज-
- 42 रयिष्यति ॥[६*] यानीह दत्तानि पुरा नरेन्द्रैर्दानानि धर्मार्थयशस्क[रा*]णि ।
निर्माल्यवान्तप्रतिमानि तानि को नाम सा-
- 43 धुः पुनराददीत ॥[७*] बहुभिर्वसुधा भुक्ता राजभिः सगरादिभिः । यस्य यस्य
यदा भूमिस्तस्य तस्य तदा फलं(लम्) ॥[८*]
- 44 संवत्सरपंचशती सपंचपंचाशतं समधिरुह्य । गोमे सर्पति समये ग्रामं श्रीराणकः
प्रादात् ॥[९*] स्वहस्ती-
- 45 यं समधिगताशिषमहाशब्दमहासामन्तश्रीराण[क*]स्य ॥ श्रीराणके महीभृति विट्क-
सूनी च लिपिक-
- 46 रे वकुले । स्वयमत्र दूतकीभूयवराजी जां(जा)ई(इ)¹कः श्रीमान् ॥[१०*]॥²

E.—Grant of king Agguka III ; Gupta Samvat 567.

This grant has been engraved on a set of **two-copper plates**, which were once secured together by means of two rings passing through two holes pierced near the edge. Only one of these rings has been preserved at present. There is no fish seal of the dynasty embossed at the place where its ends have been joined together as is the case with the rings of Charters A and B. We find the **fish emblem** appearing at the end of the charter on the second plate as is the case with Charters D and F.

The size of the first plate is $14\frac{5}{8}'' \times 9\frac{9}{16}''$ and that of the second $14\frac{13}{16}'' \times 9\frac{1}{2}''$. The weight of both the plates together with the extant ring is $386\frac{3}{4}$ *tolas*.

There are 18 lines on the first plate and 19 on the second. Generally speaking the **characters** are similar to those of Charter D, but the form of the letter *śu* is slightly different. It is interesting to add that the characters of this charter show a close resemblance to those of the *Ūnā* plates of Avani-varman II.³ issued 16 years earlier from South Kāthiāwār. The engraver of the charter was a good calligraphist, and his flourishes of medieval *ē*, *ai*, *ō* and *dau* are graceful. There are however several mistakes in engraving and they become very numerous in the last four or five lines. At two places, however, in ll. 13 and 17, two accidentally omitted letters, *la* and *na* respectively, have been engraved just below their proper place.

¹ The shortening of *ī* is required for metrical purpose.

² There is a circular symbol between two sets of *danṭas* at the end of the line.

³ *Ante*, Vol. IX, plate between pp. 130-131.

With reference to **orthography**, attention may be drawn to the use of the *avagraha*. In some cases like *pri(pri)ya-satyō=tidūra*- ll. 9-10, its use is normal, but in two cases it has been used when a preceding *ā* has been coalesced with a succeeding *a*; cf. *Bhūtāmṛilik-ā'bhudhāna*- l. 1 and *sūratay-ā'sakṛid*, l. 16.

The **language** of the charter is ornate Sanskrit. The writer **Jhōjjha**, who was a son of Mādhava, has introduced some new similes and metaphors, which to some extent relieve the monotony which cannot but be felt by a reader of the present series of charters. This same writer has composed Charter F of the present series issued in Gupta Saṁvat 596, and the Morbi plate of Jāika issued in Gupta Saṁvat 585. Jhōjjha obviously seems to have lived to a ripe old age.

The present charter records a village-grant made by **Mahāsāmantādhipati Agguka III** of the main Saindhava house, who was a son of king **Chāmuṇḍarāja** and grandson of **Jāika I**. We have already discussed the circumstances, which make it very probable that Agguka III represented the senior of the two lines founded by the two sons of Jāika I (*ante*, pp. 195-196). We may only add here that the title of Agguka III *Mahāsāmantādhipati* is more exalted than that of his cousin Rāṇaka of Charter D, which is merely *Sāmantādhipati*.

The **date** of the present grant is given in words in its penultimate verse, which states that **it was made on a new moon day when five hundred and sixty-seven autumns had elapsed according to the Gupta era**. As the month of the new moon is not given, the precise date of the grant cannot be found; it must have been issued sometime in A.D. 886-7.

The **donees** of this grant were two brothers, **Rudra and Sāgara**, sons of **Guhēsvara**, who were Yajurvedin Brāhmaṇas of Vatsa *gōtra* residing at **Gōmūtrikā** situated in the district of **Kāryāyātakachchha**. The grant was given to the donees not for their own individual use, but for being utilised for the purpose of the local Brāhmaṇa assembly, of which they were probably trustees or leading members; cf. *brahma-saṁsad-upabhōgyatāyai*, l. 25. The precise purpose of the grant is not stated; it is however probable that the Brāhmaṇas of Gōmūtrikā, which appears to have been a holy place, may have been maintaining some educational institutes or temples or both, and the grant may have been intended to meet the expenses in that connection.

The village granted was **Harishōṇāpaka**, situated in the district of **Svaranamañjarī**. Its boundaries not being given, it cannot be identified with certainty; but it is probably the same as the modern village **Hariāsana**, situated in Nawanagar state as has been suggested to me by the Dewansaheb of Porbandar after a careful enquiry. I am unable to identify the village Gōmūtrikā from which the donee hailed or the district of Kāryāyātakachchha, in which it was situated.

In l. 23 of the present charter there are a large number of fiscal terms mentioned in connection with the revenues of the village granted, the purport of which is difficult to make out. It would appear that some of them like *raiṇāṅkī* and *chiṅgōlā* are Sanskritised forms of Prākṛit words. They are not to be met with either in Sanskrit or Prākṛit dictionaries. *Bhūga-bhōga-kara* and *da āparūḍha-daṇḍa* are usual expressions in land grants and require no comment. *Danī* in old Gujarātī denoted a customs officer; so *sareva-pūt-ābhyāgāmi-dānyu* would probably denote octroi duties on articles imported. *Pōtra* means a boat, and so *pōtrā* may denote the tax on articles imported in boats. *Mārgaka* might denote some levy realised from persons who had got back their lost articles, or it may be a levy on goods collected on the roadside (before they entered a city), as suggested to me by Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra.

TEXT.¹

First Plate.

- 1 ॐ² स्वस्ति [1*] स्वस्त्य(स्ति)लकालकासम्भवर्द्धिस्पर्द्धिभूताम्बि(म्बि)लिका³भिधाननगरीगरी-
योपरसुराष्ट्रामण्डलमण्ड-
- 2 नोपरसमुद्राधिपतिरासौत्संपूर्णशरन्निशाकररश्मिप्रतानदिशदयशोराशिस्थामलितसगर्व्वसामन्तरी-
मन्तिनीवद-
- 3 नारविन्दद्युतिः प्रलयकालविजृम्भितज्वलनज्वालावलीकल्पानल्पप्रसरत्प्रतापः स्वहृदयसन्तो-
हितहितविभवदान-
- 4 फलसमाल्ला(ल्ला)दितवन्भुजनः समररसभरोदुरोर्जितजितप्रणतवैरिगिरीरत्नष्टयमाणस्फुरच्चरण-
नखमयूखख-
- 5 चितपादपीठप्राप्त(न्तः) करवाल इवापवर्जितसहजकलङ्कशङ्कः परिवाररत्नानपेक्ष्या(क्षा)-
तिस्यष्टदृष्टशक्तिरपरिमितस्निग्ध-
- 6 तरपक्षशाखासञ्चयशालिन्ध्रीमत्सैन्धववंशशेखरः समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्ताधिपतिश्री-
जार्ङ्कः [1*] सुतोभव-
- 7 तस्यापि चापिरिपुसार्यकदर्यनासमर्थप्रोत्सार्यदुत्साहभरो भारतमल्लः(ल्ल)दृ(स्तृ)तीयः(य)पार्थ
इवाशाववीकृतजगदुदितकीर्त्तिदुर्द्ध-
- 8 रधनुर्द्धरो वृकोदर इव सततरुधिरपानास्फुरणीकृतदुःशास'नोसकृदपहसितदुर्योधनश्च सव्वतः
स्वगर्व्वतः समुत्सा-
- 9 रितरिपुतिमिरनिकरो दिनकर इव वर्द्धमानतेजोरःशिरशिशिरप्रतापसंतापितोत्तुंगक्ष्माभृदंगः
शार्ङ्गधन्वेव पृ(प्रि)यस-
- 10 ल्योऽतिदूरविच्छिन्ननरकोपद्रवाशङ्कश्च श(शं)कर इवाभिनन्दितपार्व्वतीयजनो जनोचितसहज-
पुरुषकारातिरेककरदीप्त-
- 11 तप्रातिराज्यभूभृत्(दृ) भारतीमाधुर्यसमानन्दित'सकलप्रणयिजनमनःप्रसरः समधिगताशेष-
महाशब्दमहासामन्तश्री-

¹ From ink-impressions.² Indicated by a symbol.³ This *avagraha* is unnecessary.⁴ The engraver first engraved the letter *sa* and then transformed it into *śa* without erasing the loop of *śa*.⁵ A very small *ta* has been unnecessarily engraved above the line between *ndi* and *ta*.

- 12 चामुण्डराजाभिधानोतिधन्यस्तनयोभवत्¹स्माच्च शक्तियुक्तः शङ्करादिव शिखिवाहनः श्रुति-
विशुद्धमानसो मुरारिनाभिपद्मा-
- 13 दिव कमल²योनिः . सकललोकलोचनानन्दकरो रत्नाकरादिव रजनिकरः कलिकलङ्क-
मलिनीकृतकृतयुगसंभवं सच्च-
- 14 रितचित्रमिवोन्मील[यि*]तं धर्मादिवाजातशत्रुभ्रमुत्पनः(मः) समासवप्रणयिजनमनःसमौहि-
ताधिकफलसम्पादनक्षमः क्ष-
- 15 पितविपक्षव(व)ध्वमललोचनानवरतश्रुत³जलसंपातशमितकोपानलप्रसरो निरतिशयनिश्चितनिस्तृ-
(स्त्रिं)शवियुक्तापरिक्ष-
- 16 तवर्म्मिरिपुमेघवृन्दस्यन्द⁴नवरतरक्तोदवि(वि)न्दुधारासारतयाऽ⁵सक्तदुपदर्शिताकालजलददृष्टिविभ्र
मोन्(ऽ)नम्भदो-
- 17 पापगमासादितोदयो भानुरिवानुरक्तमण्डलो विपक्षभूध्वस्तकन्यस्तारुणपादश्च मेरुरिव
स्थितिमान् विबुधजनान⁶न्दि-
- 18 तमानसश्च प्रणतसमस्तनृपगणममृणपृथुललाटतटशिलाष्ट्यमाणचरणनखमयु(यू)खविक्षेपो-

Second Plate.

- 19 ज्वलीकृतनिजमहिमसंचयः समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्ना(न्ता)धिपतिश्रीमदम्बुकः सर्वा-
नैवात्मीयानमात्य-
- 20 पुरोहितजनपदयुवराजराजस्थानीयोपरिकबलाधिकृतविषयपतिशौक्षिकदुःसाधसाधनिकचौरोड-
रणिकवैद्ये-
- 21 पिकचारभटादिसमस्तराजपुरुषान्⁷ तन्निवासिब्राह्मणोत्तरान् वणिग्म(म्)हत्तरकुटुबि(म्बि)नश्च
समनुबोधयत्यस्तु वः संविदितं य-
- 22 था मया स्वभुज्यमानस्वर्त्मज(ञ्ज)र्यभिधानविषयसम्बद्धमानः पु(पू)र्व्वप्रसिद्धचतुर्दिक्य(क्त)-
रिच्छिन्(न्)स्वसीमासमवेतः सभोगभागः सद-

¹ The sentence ends with =bhavat, and so there should have been a danda after that word.

² The letter la is inscribed below the line under the letter ma.

³ Read either -navarata-sruta-jala- or -navarat-āśru-jala-.

⁴ The correct form is syandamāna.

⁵ This avagraha mark is unnecessary.

⁶ The letter na is written below the line between the letters nā and ndi.

⁷ Read -purushāms-tan-.

SIX SAINDHAVA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM GHUMLI:
E.—GRANT OF KING AGGUKA III; GUPTA SAMVAT 567.

[illegible][illegible]

- 23 ण्डदशापराधः सर्वपाताभ्यागामिदान्युपोत्रामाग्निकप्राहुणकवैटंकोचिङ्गोलादिनिमित्तनैमित्ति-
कपुरस्सरसमग्रीपादानस-
- 24 हितः सवृक्षमालाकुलः(लो) देवदायब्रह्मदायवर्जो हरिपिण्णकाभिधानग्रामः कार्यायात-
कच्छविषयात्तः(न्तः)पातिगोभूचिका-
- 25 भिधानस्थानवास्तव्यवच्छ(त्स)सगोत्रवाजिमाध्यन्दिनसब्रह्मचारिब्राह्मणगृहेश्व[र*]सुतरुद्रसागरा-
भ्यां ब्रह्मसंसदुपभोग्यतायै पयः-
- 26 पूर्वमासूर्याचन्द्रमसाब(व¹)धेः सन्तत्युपयोगाय स्वपुन्य(ण्य)यशोभिवृद्धये ब्रह्मदायः प्रति-
पादितोस्य² च भुञ्जती न केनचिद्देशाधि-
- 27 पतिना परिपत्यना कार्या [i*] भाविभिरपि नृपतिभिरस्मदंशयै(जै)रन्यैर्वा सामान्यं
भु(भू)मिदानढ(फ)लमनित्यान्यैश्वर्याणि मानुष्यकमपि
- 28 प्रव(व)लमारुताहतपद्मिनोपत्रस्थितजल[ल*]वलोलमाकलय्य दुःप(दुष्प)रिहरदुःखं क्षणिक-
ञ्च जीवितमालोक्य अ³तिप्रचुरक-
- 29 दर्शनासञ्चितमर्थजातमनिलसंगिदीपशिखाचञ्चलमालोच्य वाच्यताच्यतिकामैरतिस्रच्छमनीभिर-
यमस्मदधर्मदायोनुम-
- 30 न्तव्यः [i*] व्यासादिमुनिनिगदितभूमिहरणपापपरिपाकजनिताश्च यातनाः(ना) मनसि
निधाय पूर्वधार्मिकनृपपरिकल्पितपञ्च-
- 31 महापातकसमयः(य)श्रावणां च चिन्तयित्वा भूयो भूयो याच्यमान्यैगच्छित⁴भिरिदमनुस्म-
त्त(र्त्त)व्यं स्मृतिकारोपदिष्टं वचः [i*] षष्टिं वर्ष-
- 32 सहस्राणि स्वर्गे तिष्ठति भूमिदः [i*] आच्छेता(त्ता) क्षानुमंता च तार्क्ष्यं नरकं(के)
वसेत् ॥ स्वदत्तां परदत्तां स्वा(वा) यो हरेन्तु(त्तु) वसुन्धरां(राभ्) [i*] गतां ज्ञान
सहस्र-
- 33 स्य हंतुः प्राप्नोति किल्बिषं(षम्) ॥ यानीह दत्तानि पू(पु)रा नरेन्द्रैर्दानानि धर्मा-
र्थयशस्कराणि [i*] निर्मात्यवान्तप्रतिमानि तानि की नाम साधुः

¹ Read =*ā sūrya-chand-āvadhēb*. The vedic expression, *sūrya-chand-āvadhēb*, denoting the dual divinity of the sun and the moon, was in the writer's mind here; he has combined it with the word *avadhēb* following.

² A *sandhi* has been wrongly made here between the last word of the first sentence and the first word of the next sentence. Read *prati-pāditaḥ* | *Asya*

³ Read =*ālōku=āti*.

⁴ Read =*natr=āgāmibhu*.

- 34 पुनराददौत ॥ बहुभिर्वसुधा भुक्ता राजभिः सगरादिभिः [1*] यस्य यस्य यदा
भूमिस्तस्य तस्य तदा फलं(लम्) ॥ इति कमलदलाम्बु(म्बु)वि(वि)न्दुलोला(लां)
35 श्रियमनुचिन्त्य मनुष्यकोचि(जीवि)तञ्च [1*] सकलमिदमुदाहृतं(त)ञ्च बुध्वा(द्वा) न हि
पुरुषैः परकौर्त्तयो विलाप्याः ॥ स्वहस्तोयं श्रीमदगुकस्य ॥ सप्त-
36 युय(त)षष्टिमहिते शरदां शतपं(प)ञ्चके गते गौप्ते [1*] स्वर्भानुयोगम(मि)न्दौ दधति
शुचाविदमदास्त्रितयः(पः) ॥ इयमभ्यलेखि सुधिया वज्रै(र्ष)ततिर्म्मा-
37 धवस्य तनयेन [1*] गुणिना शासनसंज्ञां क्षोज्झेन नराधिपादेशात् ॥ इति ॥

F.—Grant of king Jāika II ; Gupta Samvat, 596.

This record has been engraved on a set of **two copper-plates**, which have been held together by means of two rings passing through two holes made near the edge. The **fish symbol**, the insignia of the dynasty, is not embossed on either ring, but is engraved at the end of the second plate. The size of the 1st plate is $13\frac{1}{4}'' \times 10\frac{1}{8}''$ and that of the 2nd $13\frac{1}{4}'' \times 10\frac{1}{4}''$, and the weight of both the plates and the rings is $495\frac{1}{4}$ *tolas*. They are thus much heavier than the other plates of this set.

21 lines have been engraved on the first plate and 20 on the second. The engraving has been done fairly well, though there are several mistakes. The *mātrās* for medial *i* and *ī* show graceful and sweeping curves; the same is the case with the left-side limb of *la*. The **language** and the **characters** are similar to those of Charter E issued by the father of the present donor. As there have been introduced as many as seven ancestors of the donor in the genealogy, and as only two plates were to be used for the record, the description of the earlier rulers has been done briefly in two or three adjectives only. Many of the phrases and expressions used in this connection are new, though unfortunately most of them are quite useless for the purpose of the historian.

As to **orthography**, the only observation that need be made is about the punctuation. It is very defective. A large number of punctuation marks have been unnecessarily used in the record; see ll. 13, 17, 21, 23, 24, etc.

The grant recorded in this charter was made by **Mahāsāmantādhipati Śrī-Jāika II**, son of king **Agguka** who had issued Charter E. The present charter gives the longest genealogy, going back to the 7th ancestor of the donor. It has been already discussed in the general introduction. We may only add here that the members of the collateral families founded by **Kṛishṇarāja**, brother of Jāika I and by **Agguka**, brother of **Chāmundaṛāja II**, are naturally omitted from this genealogy.

The charter has been **dated** both in words and in numerals; ll. 39 and 40 inform us that **it was issued on the full-moon day of Āshāḍha when five hundred and ninety-six years had elapsed according to the Gupta era**. In the absence of further details, the exact date cannot be verified, but it was most probably Thursday, the 29th of June 915 A.D., when there was the full-moon day of Āshāḍha.

The charter records that the revenues of the village **Chhampāṇaka** were assigned to **Sāhē Janārdana and others** to be spent for *Nanna-maṭhikā*, which had been founded by a merchant

named Nanna, hailing from Bhillamāla or modern Bhinmal. This *Nanna-maṭhikā* may have been a mere temple like *Purushōttama-maṭhikā* to the north-east of which it was situated. But Nanna as the name of an Indian deity is not known, and the temples named after their founders usually bear an *īśvara* suffix added to their founders' names. Thus a temple founded by Nanna would be known as *Nannēśvara* and not merely as *Nanna-maṭhikā*. *Maṭhikā* or *maṭha* also denotes a place where spiritual and educational lessons are imparted, and ll. 27-8 lay down that Sāhē Janārdana and others, who were to hold the property, were expected to be engaged in sacred studies. It is therefore probable that what Nanna had done was to found a school or college rather than a temple: or his temple itself may have become a seat of learning, as was the case with so many shrines of ancient and medieval periods. One-fourth of the revenue of the village was to be utilised for feeding Brāhmanas every day; these may have included the poor students of the college. Three-fourths of the income was to be utilised for the expenses of the *maṭha*, probably consisting of the pay of the teachers, stipends to students, and worship of the temple, if it was included in the *maṭha* establishment.

Of the places mentioned in the record, *Svarnamahjarī* and *Bhillamāla* have been already met with. The village *Chhampānaka* that was granted was probably the same as modern *Chāvaṇḍ*, situated about 15 miles north of Junagadh. If we are correct in holding that the rather cryptic expression, which gives the boundaries of the village, states that the village *īśvarāṇaka* was to its north, then the above identification would become very probable, for to the north of modern Chāvaṇḍ is situated the village of *īśvariā*. Other boundary villages however cannot be traced in the survey maps.

TEXT¹

First Plate.

- 1 ॐ² स्वस्ति [।*] स्वस्ति लकालकासंभवाईसईभूतांवि(वि)लिकाभिधाननगरीगरीयोपर-
सुचा(रा)धामण्डलमण्डनोपर-
- 2 समुद्राधिपतिश्रीमज्जयद्रथवंशेश्वरः श्रीपुष्पदेवाभिधानः क्षितिपतिर्बभूव । तस्य च
कुवलयदलश्यामलैक-
- 3 चारुकरभ्राजमानानवद्यपुष्करतयां विनायकोक्तमा(स)कलसपद्ममण्डलः श्रीहृत्पराजनामा
न(त)नयोभवत् ।
- 4 तस्यापि विपुलविपुलविप्रतीकपथोधिबलजलनिमग्नखभूमण्डलोदरणसौकर्यलीलाप्रकटितमहा-
- 5 वराहमहिमा श्रीमदगुकाभिधानस्तस्यापि निशितनिस्तुं(स्त्रिं)शपातक्षतविपक्षक्षतिचरत्क्षत-
जराज्यनुरज्यमा-

¹ From ink-impressions.

² Indicated by a symbol.

³ The word *puṣhkarā* is here used in the unusual sense of a sword.

⁴ The word *tarayah* has been probably omitted here through inadvertence.

- 6 नाजिचितितलजयथीः श्रीराणकनामा¹ तस्य च प्रणमदूर्जितानंतसामंतमसृण्पृथुललाट-
तटशिलाशाणाष्ट-
- 7 थ्यमाणस्फुरच्चरणनखमयूखविघ्नेष्वल(ली)कृतनिजमहिमसंचयः ।² अनेकनिकपटबलिपं(वं)-
धप्रबंधप्रकटित
- 8 सातिरेककृतयुगव्यवस्थः ।³ एकाच्युतोरस्थलावस्थानावसीदन्मानसयेव श्रिया समाश्रु(श्रि)त-
सर्वावयवः श्रीजार्द-
- 9 कनामा सूनुरभूत् । तस्य च समग्रशरन्निशाकर⁴रश्मिप्रतानविशदयशोराशिश्यामलितस-
गर्वशत्रुसामंत-
- 10 सीमंतिनीवदनारविंदद्युतिः प्रलयकालविजृम्भितज्वलज्ज्वलनज्वालावलीकल्पानल्पप्रसरत्प्रतापः
श्रीचा-
- 11 मुण्डराजाभिधानस्तनयस्तस्माच्च(च) शक्तियुक्तः शक्त(ङ्)राटिव शिखण्डिवाहनः श्रुतिविश्र-
[ङ्*]मानसो मुरारिनाभि-
- 12 नलिनादिव नलिनयोनिः सकललोकलोचनानंदकरो रत्नाकरादिव रत्नमकरः कलिक-
लंकमलिनो-
- 13 कृतं कृतयुगसंभवं सच्चरितचित्त(त्र)मिवोन्मीलयितं धम्मा(र्मा)दिवाजातशत्रुः समुत्पन्नः(त्रः) ।⁴
सकलप्रणयिजनम-
- 14 नःसमीहिताधिकफलसंपादनकल्पपादपः क्षपितविपक्षप(व)ध्वम्मा(म)ललोचनानवरतस्रुताश्रुज-
लसंपा-
- 15 तशमितकोपानलप्रसरो बहुविपक्षपशुवधसिद्धिसमरमखदीक्षाचार्यः ।² श्रीमदगुप्ताभिधा-
नोतिधन्य-
- 16 स्तनयोभवत्तस्य च तुरगखरखुरमुखोत्खातबहलबलधूलीवितानजायमानसमदकरिकरटगलि-
- 17 तदानजलसीकरासारजनितपंकानुबंधः कृपाणधाराभिहतायतध(व)र्गशतसमुद्गीर्णवह्निस्फुलिंग-
खद्यो-
- 18 तमालाखाचितसमरदुर्द्दिनः ।² पृथ्व्यशसि ।² अजातशत्रुर्वचसि ।³ तपनस्तेजसि ॥² मरु-
त्तरसि कंदर्पो वयसि ।² ज-

¹ A word like *sutah* has to be supplied here. From Charters A and B, we know that Rānaka was a son of Agguka.

² This punctuation mark is unnecessary.

³ The letter *ro* is defectively engraved ; the right hand horizontal stroke is missing.

⁴ After *-bhavut*, a punctuation mark should have been inserted to mark the end of the sentence.

SIX SAINDHAVA COPPER-PLATE GRANTS FROM GHUMLI:

F.—GRANT OF KING JAIKA II; GUPTA SAMVAT 596.

1. ... 2. ... 3. ... 4. ... 5. ... 6. ... 7. ... 8. ... 9. ... 10. ... 11. ... 12. ... 13. ... 14. ... 15. ... 16. ... 17. ... 18. ... 19. ... 20. ...

ii.

22. ... 23. ... 24. ... 25. ... 26. ... 27. ... 28. ... 29. ... 30. ... 31. ... 32. ... 33. ... 34. ... 35. ... 36. ... 37. ... 38. ... 39. ... 40. ...

- 19 नको मित्रांजसि¹ ।² समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामंताधिपतिश्रौजार्द्रकः सर्वानिवामात्य-
युवराजराजपु-
20 चदेशाधिपतिविषयाधिकृतदुःसाध्यसाधनिकचौरोद्वरणिकवैशेषिकचारभटादिकसमस्तराज-
21 पुरुषां(षान्) समान्नापयप³त्येवं यथा ।² मया स्वर्षमंजरीविषयसंव(व)द्वमानकंपाणकाभि-

Second Plate.

- 22 धानग्रामः सभोगभागः सहस्रमालः सदण्डदशापराधः करहिरण्यादानयुतः समस्तोपा-
23 दानसहितः ।² दानीमार्गणकादियथादेशकालगृह्यमाणसमस्तोपादानसहितो देवदायत्र-
(त्र)ह्यदा-
24 यवर्जः ।² लूषापटक ईश्वराणक ।² भ्रमरकक ।² हुडुंवि(वि)लिकाख्यैश्चतुर्भिः
प्रतिगोष्ठीग्रामैः पूर्वदिदिक्(ड)मध्या-
25 वस्थितैराघाटायमानैः स्वभुवा कृतसीमापरिच्छिन्ति(त्तिः) प्राक्तनसमस्तस(श)स्तसीमापर्यंतो
भूताम्बि(म्बि)लिकापत्तन-
26 स्वतलमध्यवत्ति(त्ति)प(पु)रुषोत्त(त्त)ममधि(ठि)कासंनिहितपूर्वोत्तरदिग्भागावस्थितायै श्रीभिन्नमा-
लीयव्यवहरक(हारिक)ननकृतप्र-
27 तिष्ठायै तन्नामांकितायै नन्मधि(ठि)कायै तदुपयोगिव्ययनिमित्तं साहेजनाईनादिषु कृत-
पालनाविधिषु यथाकालं
28 भवत्सु स्वाध्यायिषु स्वधर्मयशोभिद्वयै पयःपूर्वमा शशांकतपनार्थवस्थितः प्रतिपादितः ।
चतुर्थश्च भागोऽस्य
29 ब्राह्मणानां प्रातिदिवसिकभोजनव्यये कर्त्तव्यः । भागत्रयं तु मधि(ठि)काव्यये व्ययौ-
कार्य[म्*] । अस्य चैवमुपयोगे व्रजतो
30 न केनचिद्देशाधिपतिना व्यासेधः परिपंथना वा कार्या । भाविभिश्च भूमिपतिभिः
सामान्यं भूमिदानफलं ।² अनित्या-
31 न्यैश्वर्या[णि*] मानुष्यकमपि प्रबलमारुताहतपद्मिनीपत्रस्थितजललवलोलमाकलत्थ दुःप-
(दुष्प)रिहरदुक्त्वं(दुःखं) क्ष-

¹ The meaning of this clause is not clear. Probably a word denoting quality has been omitted after *Janakō*, and we have to read for the last four letters *mitram=añjasi* 'a friend in straightforwardness', *Añjas*, n. means velocity and *añjasa* adj. has the sense of honest, straightforward.

² This punctuation mark is unnecessary

³ The letter *pa* is redundant; read *samājñāpayaty=*.

- 32 णिकं च जीवितमालोच्यातिप्रचुरकदर्थनासंचितमर्थजातमनिलसंगिदीपं(प)शिखाचंचलमा-
लोच्यायमस्रद्धर्म-
- 33 दायोनुमंत[व्य*]: । व्यासादिमुनिनिगदितपूर्वधार्मिकनृपप¹रिकल्पितपंचमहाष(पा)तकसम-
यश्रावणां च चिंतयित्वा प्र-
- 34 तियाचनानुब्रह्ममानै[:*] सत्तर्थं स्मृतिकारोपदिष्टं वचः । षष्टि(ष्टि) र्व(व)र्षसहस्राणि
स्वर्गे तिष्ठति [भू*]मिद[: ।*] आच्छेत्ता चानुमं-
- 35 ता च ताग्येव नरकं वसेत् ।[।*] बहुभिर्व्वसुधा भुक्ता राजभिः सगरादिभिर्य-
(भिः । य)स्य [यस्य*] यदा भूमिस्तस्य तस्य तदा फलं(लम्) ।[।*] स्वदत्तां प-
- 36 रदत्तां वा यो हरेत्तु वसुंधरां(राम्) ।[*] गवां शतसहस्रस्य हं(ह)न्तुः प्राप्नोति
किल्बिषं(पम्) ॥ विध्या(भ्या)टवि(वी)ष्वतोयासु शुष्ककोटरवासिनः ।
- 37 महाहयो हि जां(जा)यंते ब्र(ब्र)ह्मदायापहारिणः ।[।*] इति कमलदलांबुविंदुलोलां
श्रियमनुचिंत्य मनुष्यजीवितं च [।*] स-
- 38 क[ल*]मिदमुदाहृतं च बुद्धा(द्वा) न हि पुरुषैः परकीर्त्तयो विलोप्याः ।[।*] षड-
धिकनवतिसमग्रे शरदां शतपंचके गते गौ-
- 39 मे । अहिताषाढीपर्वणि भूपतिरेन(नं) च² सङ्गत्या ।[।*] इयमभ्यलेखि सुधिया वर्स-
ततिर्माधवस्य तनयेन । गुण-
- 40 वति शासनसंज्ञा क्षोज्जेन पटे नृपादेशात् ।[।*] अंकतोपि संवत् ५००, ८०, ६
(५८६) आषाढशुदि १०, ५, (१५) स्वहस्तोयं श्रीजाई-
- 41 कस्य³ ॥ उद्विरन्तेद⁴मिह सूत्रधारशंकरसुतमधुसूदनेनि(न) ॥⁵

¹ The second *pa* has been engraved below the line under the first *pa*.

² The letter *cha* has been engraved below the line between *na* and *sa*. There is no verb in the verse; *bhūpatir=enam dadau bhaktyā* would therefore be a better reading.

³ Letters *kasya* have been engraved at the end of this line, just before the fish symbol. The division of the king's signature in this queer way may be due to two causes. The idea to engrave the royal sign manual may have occurred later after the whole record was engraved; the space left at the end of l. 40 was utilised for this purpose and when this was found insufficient, the two concluding letters were shoved in between the space lying vacant between the two symbols and the fish symbol at the end of the last line. Or, the engraver Madhusūdana thought that the whole record, including the royal signature, could be finished in l. 40, but before finishing that line he hurried to record his own name in l. 41. When eventually l. 40 was later completed and it was discovered that the last two letters of the king's signature could not be accommodated in that line, there was no alternative but to put them between the symbols at the end of l. 41. Had the engraver been not impatient to put his own name before finishing the record, this queer division of the king's name would not have been necessitated.

⁴ Read *Ukirṇam=dam=*. Probably the form of the word in the text discloses the standard of the knowledge of Sanskrit of the engravers' class.

⁵ There are two conch-like symbols after the punctuation mark. They are followed first by the letter *kasya* and then by the fish symbol. The first symbol looks like the *ōm* symbol.

No. 23.—A NOTE ON THE DATE OF THE SOMAVAMSI KINGS OF SOUTHERN KOSALA.

BY PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A., NAGPUR.

In his article¹ on the date of the Pāṇḍava or Sōmavamśi kings of Southern Kōśala, Mr. A. Ghosh has attempted to show that the date (*viz.*, the second quarter of the sixth century A. D.) which I had tentatively assigned to Tivaradēva of the Sōmavamśi dynasty is too early. According to him Tivaradēva may be placed in the last quarter of the seventh century A. D.

The main argument advanced by Mr. Ghosh is palæographical. He has shown by a palæographical chart that the test letters *bh*, *y*, *ś*, *s*, and *h* in the so-called Bhāṇḍak inscription² of Nannarājādhirāja, the father of Tivaradēva and the Śirpur inscription³ of Mahā-Śivagupta ala- Bālārjuna, the grand-nephew of Tivaradēva, are more developed than those of the Āraṅg copper-plate inscription⁴ of Bhīmasēna II. This latter inscription comes from Chhattiśgarh and as such its evidence is most valuable. Following the late R. B. Hiralal who has edited the plates in this Journal, Mr. Ghosh takes the date of this inscription to correspond to A. D. 601. As the inscription of Nannarāja exhibits more developed forms of the test letters, Mr. Ghosh thinks that the ascription of that inscription to a date earlier than A. D. 650 is a palæographical impossibility. He therefore tentatively places Tivaradēva, the son of Nannarāja or Nannadēva, in the last quarter of the seventh century A. D.

It is indeed true that the aforementioned test letters have more developed forms in the inscriptions of Nannarāja and Mahā-Śivagupta-Bālārjuna, but these inscriptions need not on that account be referred to a date later than A. D. 650. As the accompanying palæographical chart⁵ will show, these test letters had assumed these later forms even before A. D. 600, for we find all of them in the Boḷh-Gayā inscription of Mahānāman, dated A. D. 588. In this inscription *bh* and *s* have a hollow wedge attached to the left corner; *y* has become bipartite; *ś* in some cases shows its right vertical stroke projecting a little above its top and the right limb of *h* hangs down. The same developed forms are noticed in the Madhuban plate of Harsha, dated A. D. 631⁶. It may be objected that both these inscriptions come from North India and consequently their evidence is inadmissible for fixing the date of such southern records as the inscriptions of Nannarāja and Mahā-Śivagupta. I would, in that case, invite attention to the forms of the test letters in the plates of the time of Śaśāṅka, dated A. D. 619-20, which come from the Ganjām District. In all these inscriptions which range in dates from A. D. 588 to 631, we find the same developed forms of the test letters that we notice in the inscriptions

¹ Above, Vol. XXV, pp. 266 ff.

² *J. R. A. S.*, for 1905, pp. 617 ff. As I have shown elsewhere (above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 116 ff.), the inscription did not probably belong to Bhāṇḍak, but came originally from some place in Chhattiśgarh.

After this note was sent to the press, my friend Mr. Y. K. Deshpande of Yeotmal who has recently returned from England supplied me an extract from a manuscript (Marāṭhī, D 46) deposited in the India Office Library, London. This MS. contains an account of the inscriptions in Chhattiśgarh by Vinayakrao Aurangabadkar who was in the service of Mr. Richard Jenkins, the British Resident at Nagpur from 1807 to 1826. In this account Aurangabadkar states that the stone slab containing the inscription of Bhavadēva was affixed to a large temple at Āraṅg. He gives a transcript and a short description of the contents of this record which leave no doubt about its identity. This has unexpectedly corroborated my conjecture about the provenance of this inscription which was long in doubt.

³ Above, Vol. XI, pp. 184 ff.

⁴ *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, pp. 342 ff.

⁵ The letters in this chart have been traced as accurately as possible from the published facsimile plates of the records.

⁶ Above, Vol. VII, p. 158.

of Nannarāja and Mahā-Śivagupta. These forms may have become current about A. D. 550.¹ This will show that the dates which I had assigned to Tivaradēva and Mahā-Śivagupta are not altogether wide of the mark.

How then are we to reconcile the evidence of the Āraṅ plates? As shown by Mr. Ghosh, these plates present earlier forms of the test letters, but they are dated A. D. 601. I think there is a mistake in the reading of the date which is given in lines 12-13 of the inscription. R. B. Hiralal read the date as *Guptānām samvatsara-śatē 200 80 2 Bhādra di 10 8* and translated it as 'in the year of the Guptas in hundreds 200, 80 2 (in the month of) Bhādra, on the day 10 8(?)'. It is plain that the writer intended to give the year of the date both in words and in figures, but omitted inadvertently some expression like *dvy-aśīty-uttarē* after *samvatsara-śatē*². Is there a similar mistake in the expression *samvatsara-śatē* also, the intended expression being *samvatsara-śata-dvayē*³? I do not think so, because firstly, the characters of the inscription are, as shown above, much earlier than A. D. 601-2 to which the record will have to be assigned if the intended reading is *samvatsara-śata-dvayē dvy-aśīty-uttarē*; secondly, the symbols which follow give the date 182, not 282. As in other records of the period, the date is expressed here by numerical symbols. The first symbol stands for 100, since the horizontal bar which is added on the right of its vertical to change it into one for 200 is wanting here. The date of the Āraṅ plates is thus G. E. 182 (not 282) which corresponds to A. D. 501-2. This fits in admirably with the evidence of its early characters.

None of the inscriptions of the kings of Śarabhapura and those of Sōmavarmā kings is dated in any era. The dates of these kings can therefore be fixed only approximately. In my article on the Thākurdīyā plates of Mahā-Pravararāja, I tentatively assigned Tivaradēva to the period 530 to 550 A. D. on the supposition that he was a contemporary of the Vishṇukunḍin Mādhavarman I who is known to have married a Vākāṭaka princess. The contemporaneity of Tivaradēva and Mādhavarman I was suggested by the expression *Trivara-nagara* which occurs in two inscriptions⁴ of the latter. Mr. Ghosh takes *Trivara-nagara* to mean the city of Tripurī, but this interpretation is doubtful because the name of the city current in the sixth century A. D. was Tripurī⁵, not Trivara. Even if Trivara is regarded as a partially Prakritized form of Tripurī, it is not clear why such a corrupt form should occur not once but twice in records which are throughout written in good Sanskrit. The other arguments of Mr. Ghosh are more or less conjectural.

¹ Dr. Hoernle has shown that subsequent to A. D. 540 the cursive bipartite form of *y* is found in undisputed possession of the field (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXI, p. 35), but the Harāhā stone inscription dated A. D. 554, in which the old tripartite form of *y* is used together with the later bipartite form of the letter, indicates that the older form persisted a little longer.

² Compare the wording of the dates of Nos. 1267, 1270, 1275, 1280, 1284, 1290, etc., in Bhandarkar's *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*.

³ Compare the wording *nav-ōttarē-bda-śata-dvayē* of the date of No. 1298 of Bhandarkar's *List*. I do not think that the expression *samvatsara-śatē* in the date of the Āraṅ plates is nominative dual (meaning two hundred years); for the locative (and not the nominative) is generally used in such cases. See the wording of the dates cited in note 2 above.

⁴ See the Ipūr plates, above, Vol. XVII, pp. 334 ff. and the Pulombūru plates, *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. VI, pp. 17 ff.

⁵ The *Tripurivishaya* is mentioned in the Bētul plates of Saṅkshobha, dated G. E. 199 (A. D. 518-19), above, Vol. VIII, pp. 284 ff.

PALAEOGRAPHICAL CHART RELATING TO THE DATE OF THE
SOMAVAMSI KINGS OF SOUTHERN KOSALA.

	ĀRAṆG PLATES OF BHĪMASĒNA II, A. D. 501.	BHĀNDAK(?) INSCRIPTION OF NANNARĀJĀDHIRĀJA	BODH GAYĀ INSCRIPTION OF MAHĀNĀMAN A. D. 588.	PLATES OF THE TIME OF ŚĀŚĀṆKA RĀJA A. D. 619.	MADHUBAN PLATE OF HARSHA A. D. 631.
gh	ग	ङ	ङ	ङ	ङ
y	य	य	य	य	य
ṣ'	स	स	स	स	स
ṣ	र	र	र	र	र
h	ह	ह	ह	ह	ह

It is not of course altogether unlikely that Tivaradēva flourished a few years later than the period I have tentatively assigned to him. The inscriptions of Bhīmasēna II, the kings of Śarabhapura and the Sōmavamśi kings come from the same part of Chhattisgarh¹. These kings seem to have flourished in the order stated above. As we have already seen, Bhīmasēna II was ruling in A. D. 501-2. He seems to have been overthrown soon afterwards by a king of Śarabhapura, probably Mahā-Jayarāja, who coming from the East² seems to have established himself in Chhattisgarh. The plates of his cousins Mahā-Sudēvarāja and Mahā-Pravararāja also have been found in Chhattisgarh. We may assign about thirty years³ to the reigns of these three princes. Mahā-Pravararāja, the last king of this line, seems to have been overthrown by Indrabala, the son of Udayana, who may have invaded the country during the campaign of the Maukhari king Išānavarman against an Āndhra king. No inscriptions of Indrabala have been discovered in Chhattisgarh, but those of his sons Nannarāja and Išānadēva have been found there. We may assign about thirty years to the reigns of these princes. The stone inscription of Nannarāja thus may have been incised about A. D. 550. This would account for the developed forms of the test letters in that record.

Tivaradēva the son of Nannarāja or Nannadēva may thus have come to the throne about A. D. 560. He was probably a contemporary of the Vishnukundin king Mādhavarman I whose Pulombūru plates⁴ suggesting his victory over Tivaradēva, I have tentatively assigned to A. D. 565. Tivaradēva becomes also a contemporary of Sūryavarman, the Maukhari prince mentioned in the Harāhā stone inscription⁵ dated A. D. 554. This Sūryavarman is probably identical with the homonymous king of 'the Varman family great on account of its supremacy over Magadha', whose daughter Vāsaṭā was married to Tivaradēva's nephew Harshagupta.

¹ The inscription of Bhīmasēna was found at Āraṅg, those of the kings of Śarabhapura at Āraṅg, Khariar, Śirpur, Raipur, Sāraṅgarh and Thākurdīyā and of the Sōmavamśi kings at Kharod, Rājim, Bulodā, Śirpur and Āraṅg. It is not of course absolutely certain that the copper-plate inscription of Bhīmasēna II found at Āraṅg properly belongs to Chhattisgarh, as the identification of the place-names mentioned in it is not beyond doubt. But in the following discussion I have taken for granted that Bhīmasēna II was ruling in Chhattisgarh. Śūra, the first king mentioned in the Āraṅg plates of Bhīmasēna II, is perhaps identical with Sūryaghōṣha mentioned in the stone inscription of Nannarāja, who originally built the temple of Sugata (Buddha) which was later on repaired during the reign of Nannarāja. In Sanskrit *Śūra* and *Sūrya* are synonyms.

² The capital of these princes until the time of Mahā-Pravararāja was Śarabhapura, which may be identical with Śarabgarh in the Gāṅgpur feudatory state in Orissa.

³ This period might appear unusually short for three reigns, but we have to remember that the total of the known reign-periods of those three kings is not more than 18, viz., 5 years of Jayarāja (Āraṅg plates), 10 years of Sudēvarāja (Raipur plates) and 3 years of Pravararāja (Thākurdīyā plates).

⁴ Some scholars take this Mādhavarman to be the third prince of that name, notwithstanding the fact that like Mādhavarman I of the Chikkullā plates (above, Vol. IV, pp. 193 ff.) he is credited with the performance of 11 *Āśramēdhas* and 1,000 sacrifices. These scholars take Mādhavarman who is similarly described in the Rāmatīrtham plates to be Mādhavarman II. As Mr. K. V. Lakshmana Rao has observed, "other princes of the dynasty, who had not the fortune of being called Mādhavarman, are not credited with having performed any sacrifices. It cannot be explained why the family tradition made the celebration of horse-sacrifice, etc. the monopoly of Mādhavarman". *Journal of the Department of Letters, Cal. Univ.*, Vol. XI, p. 48. It seems therefore better to identify these three princes.

⁵ The characters of this inscription are not earlier than those of the Āraṅg plates as Mr. Ghosh thinks. It presents the bipartite *y* in several places, see e.g., *yōshūtō*, l. 1; *yauvana*, l. 8; *yō*, l. 9; *nādiṭay=aira*, l. 14, etc.; the right hand vertical of *ś* in some cases rises a little above its top, see *varnn-āśram*, l. 5; *mēgh-āśanki*, l. 6, etc.; *bh* and *s* have a wedge on the left though it is not yet hollow. The inscription thus clearly appears to be later than the Āraṅg plates.

The contemporaneity of Tivaradēva and Sūryavarman makes this matrimonial alliance of the two royal families quite likely. The capital of the Maukharis was not, of course, situated in Magadha, but the country was probably included in the Maukhari Empire during the reign of Kānavarman, the father of Sūryavarman, as he is said to have carried his arms as far as Gauda. Until another king of the name Sūryavarman becomes known, it seems better to accept this identification.

The Sōmavarṃśī kings thus flourished in Chhattisgarh in the sixth and seventh centuries A. D.

NO. 29.—TWO RECORDS OF PARANTAKA I FROM TAKKOLAM.

BY THE LATE MR. A. S. RAMANATHA AYYAR, B.A., MADRAS.

Takkōlam is a village in the Arkonam taluk of the North Arcot District. It has an old temple of the Chōḷa type, which contains epigraphs dating from the time of the early king Āditya I, one of which has already been published¹. The god of this temple was in ancient times called Tiruvūḷal-Mahādēva, because of the existence of a natural spring in the temple precincts and this name has been Sanskritised into the present appellation of Jalaṇāthēśvara.

The two short inscriptions² published below as **A** and **B** are engraved on a narrow belt on the base of the central shrine of this temple. The **characters** in which they are engraved are attributable to the **10th century A. D.** and the **language** of the record is fairly correct Tamil. A few omissions of letters are noticeable here and there, due perhaps to the carelessness of the engraver. In point of **orthography**, there is nothing very particular to notice, except that the letter *pā* is written both in the ordinary manner and with the secondary length added as a separate symbol. Sanskrit letters are used for some words such as *Parāntakadēva*, *Dāṇmāsana*, etc., in record A, while they are in Tamil characters in the other epigraph. The verbal suffix *āṇ* is spelt as a separate word in some instances, and also in combination with the preceding verb in other cases. The Dakṣiṇāmūrti shrine on the southern side hides from view some portions in both the records but as their wording is nearly identical, the missing words can be surmised and the full texts of the records restored fairly completely.

The records are dated in the **31st year of Madiraikoṇḍa Parakēsarivarman**, i.e., Parāntaka I, and they register two gifts of 30 *kaḷaṇḍu* each made by the **daughter of Śōḷaperumāṇḍigaḷ** (i.e., the Chōḷa king) Parāntaka (A. D. 907-953) who is also further described as the *Mahādēvīyār* (queen) of **Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar**. Her personal name is mentioned in the record B as **Vīramādēviyār**. These gifts are stated to have been left separately in the charge of the *ūr* (assembly) of the two villages Chammaḷalai in Dāmar-kōṭṭam and Urāḍagam in Maṇayil-kōṭṭam, for the supply of oil for burning a perpetual lamp each in the temple of Tiruvūḷal-Mahādēva at Takkōlam. The records are important in that they mention a **Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar** as the son-in-law of Parāntaka I; and though the dynasty to which he belonged is not specified, it is possible to identify him with the **Rāshṭrakūṭa king Gōvinda IV** for whom records are found from about A. D. 918 to at least A. D. 933-34.

The name Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar is composed of two parts—'Gōvinda' the personal name and 'Vallavaraiyar' the dynastic title. From Rāshṭrakūṭa copper-plate grants it is learnt that

¹ *Ante*, Vol. XIX, p. 81. The historical and other facts connected with this village have been mentioned at some length in that article.

² Nos. 245 and 246 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1921.

Dantidurga, an early king of this dynasty, who defeated the Chālukya king Kirtivarman of Bādāmi, was the first to assume the title of *Prithivīvallabha*¹. This title curtailed into 'Vallabha' (and 'Ballaha') became a particular *biruda* of the subsequent kings of this family², and was used either by itself or in conjunction with the respective proper names of the kings, such as Nirupama-Vallabha³, Indra-Vallabha³, Kṛṣṇa-Vallabha⁴, etc. The kings bearing the personal name of Gōvinda were also similarly referred to as Gōvinda-Vallabha⁵ or Gojjiga-Vallabha⁶, by the addition of the title 'Vallabha' to their name of Gōvinda or Gojjiga. A bilingual record from Tiruvorriyūr⁷ in the Chingleput District dated in the 18th year of the Rāshtrakūṭa king Kaṇṇaradēva 'who took Kachchi and Taṇjai' (i.e.), Kṛṣṇa III, registers a gift made by a merchant of Mānyakhēṭa, the Rāshtrakūṭa capital, who is described as '*vaṭṭyō Vallabha-bhūmipāla-mahitō yō Mānyakhēṭ-ōl(d)bhavaḥ*'. The Tamil counterpart of the same epigraph refers to this merchant as a '*Vallavaraiyar kaṭakattu vyāpārī*'. Another inscription⁸ from the same temple refers to Kṛṣṇa III as '*Vallavaraiyar Kaṇṇaradēva*', and registers a gift made by his mother Pūlaichchi-Rāṇiyār. From these instances, it is evident that the Rāshtrakūṭa kings used the title of 'Vallabha' and its Tamil equivalent of 'Vallavaraiyar' to indicate their dynasty, in the same way as Pāṇḍiyānār signified a Pāṇḍya king and 'Sēramānār' a Chēra ruler. Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar of the records under consideration can therefore be identified as a member of the Rāshtrakūṭa family. Though the titles Vallavaraiyar and Pallavaraiyar may have been sometimes used by petty nondescript chieftains in later times, the fact that this Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar had married the daughter of the powerful Chōḷa king Parāntaka marks him out as a great personage presumably of royal status.

Who could have been this royal personage by name Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar, who belonged to the Rāshtrakūṭa dynasty and who flourished in this period? From the records copied hitherto in the Madras Presidency⁹ as well as in the Bombay-Karnāṭak¹⁰, it is learnt that there was such a king answering to the name of Gōvinda-Vallabha or Gōyinda-Vallabha, who flourished in the first half of the 10th century A.D. His earliest record¹¹ is dated in Śaka 840 corresponding to December A.D. 918, and his last record¹² so far known bears the date Śaka 855 corresponding to A.D. 933-4. He was thus a contemporary of Parāntaka, and there is nothing inherently improbable in his having married a daughter of that Chōḷa king. In fact it can be inferred from some Chōḷa records that Chōḷa-Rāshtrakūṭa alliances dated from the time of Kṛṣṇa II himself, as will be shown in the sequel.

¹ *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. VIII, pp. 11 ff. and *ante*, Vol. VI, p. 191.

² [It is more probable that the *biruda* of 'Vallabha' which had been borne by the Chālukya kings was adopted by the Rāshtrakūṭas as their political successors.—N. L. R.]

³ *S. I. I.*, Vol. IX, No. 59 (No. 73 of 1901) wherein the king is called Indra-Vallabha, while in No. 57 the name Indra-Ballaha occurs. Nityavarsha Nirupama-Vallabha occurs in B. K. No. 47 of 1933-34.

⁴ Kṛṣṇa II was called Kṛṣṇa-Vallabha (*ante*, Vol. VII, p. 190 and f. n. 1). Kṛṣṇa III was called Akālavarsha and was referred to as Vallabha also (*ante*, Vol. IV, p. 278). In No. 562 of 1915 the king is referred to as Ratta-Ballaha only.

⁵ No. 297 of 1918 (*S. I. I.*, Vol. IX, No. 61). He was also called simply as Vallabha-Narēndra (*ante*, Vol. VII, p. 27).

⁶ The form Gojjiga-Vallabha occurs in *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 249, Gojjiga being a local dialectical form of Gōvinda.

⁷ No. 177 of 1912.

⁸ No. 179 of 1912. The actual expression is 'Vallavaraiyar Kaṇṇaradēvar tātār Pūlaichchi-Rāṇiyār'.

⁹ No. 297 of 1918 of Gōvinda-Vallabha is dated in Śaka 853 (*S. I. I.*, Vol. IX, No. 61).

¹⁰ Sāṅgh plates of Gōvinda IV are dated in Ś. 855 (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 249).

¹¹ *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XII, p. 223, also B. K. No. 63 of 1933-34.

¹² No. 540 of 1915 is dated in Śaka 854 and the Sāṅgh plates in Ś. 855. Also *Ep. Carn.*, Vol. VII. Honnāḷi, Nos. 21-23.

From the facts known about the reign of Gōvinda, the trend of events between the years A. D. 930 and A. D. 940 may be surmised to have been the following : Gōvinda IV was an unpopular king and his ministers and feudatories were conspiring to depose him. In about A. D. 934, Gōvinda IV went to the help of the Eastern Chālukya king Yuddhamalla, when the latter was hard-pressed by Bhīma II, but in the fight that ensued the Rāshtrakūṭa army suffered a crushing defeat. At the same time in the beginning of A. D. 935, the political upheaval at the Rāshtrakūṭa capital came to a head, resulting in the accession of Amōghavarsha III, and Gōvinda IV unable to face the strong party of his enemies at home, fled to the court of his father-in-law Parāntaka I. Gōvinda's records in the Rāshtrakūṭa territory stop with A. D. 933-4 and from about A.D. 935-6, his successor Amōghavarsha III was in occupation of the Rāshtrakūṭa throne, helped by his able and ambitious son Kṛishṇa III. It is possible that as a fugitive Gōvinda IV kept on for some time in the Chōla territory, where he was probably staying at the time of the Takkōlam records in A. D. 937. From the statement in the Sūḍi plates¹ of the Gaṅga chief Būtuga II that on the death of Baddega (Amōghavarsha) he had helped Kṛishṇa III to secure the Rāshtrakūṭa throne from the possession of a certain Lallēya (?), it may be surmised that there was some disturbance soon after Amōghavarsha's death in the beginning of the year A. D. 940. Who this Lallēya was is not clear. It is possible that about this time Gōvinda IV with the help of Parāntaka I had made a feeble attempt to regain his throne and that, being unsuccessful, he had also lost his life in this venture. If this is conceded, Kṛishṇa III's invasion of Chōla territory which must have occurred some time after his accession and before A. D. 944, as testified to by the Siddhalingamaḍam record of his 5th year², attains an additional significance, for it must have been as much a war of aggression, as it was one of revenge against the Chōla king Parāntaka for the help he had rendered to his rival Gōvinda IV. Though some of the foregoing statements may not be capable of individual proof at present, there is nothing implausible in the sequence of the events, as surmised here, the correctness of which will have to be confirmed by future discoveries.

As regards the subject-matter of the records, it is stated that the two gifts of 30 *kalanju* each were left in the custody of the *Ūr*-assembly of the two villages **Chammaḷalai** and **Urāḍagam**³. These villages must have been situated near enough to Takkōlam itself, to be able to measure the stipulated quantity of oil daily to the temple of Tiruvūral-Mahādēva for the maintenance of the perpetual lamps. Failure to supply the oil was liable to a fine of 8½ *kāṇam* for every day of default, which had to be paid to the *Dhanmāsanaṁ*, i.e., the court of justice, which functioned in every village in ancient times and looked after the judicial life of the village community. Such conditions and penalties are of the usual type found in Chōla records of this period.

Note on Chōla-Rāshtrakūṭa relationship.

It has been stated above that the Chōla-Rāshtrakūṭa matrimonial alliances had probably commenced even from the time of Kṛishṇa II himself. In this connection, a Tamil record⁴ from Tirumaḷavāḍi in the Trichinopoly District is of considerable interest.

¹ *Ante*, Vol. III, pp. 179-80, ll. 51 to 54. These plates, owing to certain irregularities in the date-portion, were considered spurious, but are now accepted as fairly reliable, in so far as the matter contained in them is concerned.

² No. 375 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1909. The Sūḍi plates of A. D. 938-9 mention the conquests of Kṛishṇa III; but the date-portion of that record is, as mentioned above, suspect.

³ A village *Urōḍagam* alias *Pallavamalla-Chaturvēdimaṅgalam* in *Kaḷattūr-nādu* is mentioned in No. 253 of 1913.

⁴ No. 14 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1920.

It is dated in the 27th year of the Chōla king Rājakēsarivarman and registers a gift of 10 *kaṇṇju* of gold and a lamp-stand by a lady named *Ṣaṅgō-Pichchi*, who is described as the daughter (*magalār*) of Vallavaraiyar, and who was probably the senior queen (*muṇṇam pugunda mūttadēviyār*) of Śōla-perumāṇaḍigaḷ (*i.e.*, the Chōla king).¹ The high regnal year 27, as well as the absence of the historical introduction ‘*Tirumagaḷ-pōla*’ of Rājārāja I in it, favour its attribution to the early king Āditya I (A. D. 870-907).² As the Anbil plates of Sundara-Chōla³ state that Āditya I had built on both the banks of the Kāvēri tall stone temples in honour of Śiva, the Tirumalavāḍi temple along with some others in its vicinity, may correctly be presumed to have come into existence in the reign of this Chōla king. The astronomical details contained in the present record—namely, 27th year, Tulā, Saturday and Bharanī which give the equivalent A. D. 897, October 15, Saturday, which is correct for Āditya I, whose initial date has been determined to have been A. D. 870 or 871⁴, support this surmise.

Sufficient reasons have been adduced in a previous paragraph to show that ‘Vallavaraiyar’ was a dynastic title used by the Rāshtrakūṭa kings of this period. The personal name of Vallavaraiyar, the father of the donatrix in the present record, has unfortunately not been specified. As it was not uncommon for the kings of this dynasty to be referred to by their simple dynastic title, the Vallavaraiyar of the Tirumalavāḍi record may be identified with Kṛishṇa II, who reigned from A. D. 878 to 913 and was consequently a contemporary of Āditya I (A. D. 870—907). From these facts, it may be presumed that Āditya I had married a daughter of Kṛishṇa II.

The possibility of such a matrimonial alliance having taken place gets confirmation, though in an indirect manner, from another circumstance. The ordinary Prākṛit form of Kṛishṇa is Kaṇha, but we find that the Rāshtrakūṭa kings of the name of Kṛishṇa are referred to in their records by the name of ‘Kannara’. This latter form is peculiar to the Kannāḍa language of the Rāshtrakūṭa dynasty.⁵ Now a record⁶ dated in the 8th year of a Rājakēsarivarman, palaeographically assignable to the reign of Āditya I, makes mention of a prince called Ādityaṇ-Kaṇṇaradēva, who from the way in which his name has been expressed can be recognised as a son of Āditya and who is also specifically described as the son (*piḷḷaiyār*) of Śōlaperumāṇaḍigaḷ. As this name ‘Kaṇṇaradēva’ is foreign to the Chōla dynasty and has not been met with as a name of any of their kings, it may be inferred that this particular cognomen for the Chōla prince was due to some Rāshtrakūṭa associations and influence. If, as stated above, Āditya had married the daughter of Vallavaraiyar, *i.e.*, Kṛishṇa II *alias* Kaṇṇaradēva, it may be

¹ A portion of the record is damaged. The relevant portion reads :—‘Śōlaperumā.....rkku muṇṇam pugunda mūttadēviyār Ṣaṅgō-pichchi Tirumaluvāḍi-pPerumāṇaḍigaḷukku nondā.....’ and further on “*Ivvaippil Vallavaraiyar magalār Ṣaṅgō-pichchi vaiytta viḷakku.*” It may be noticed that the lady is called only ‘mūttadēviyār’. The name Pichchi may be derived from the Sanskrit word *Bhūkiha* or it may be equivalent to the Kannāḍa *Bijjā*; but it is not clear why the honorific suffix of *ār* is not mentioned with her name.

² The characters in which this record is engraved are attributable to the 11th century A. D., but when it is remembered that the *Śrīvimāna* of the temple was renovated under the orders of Rājārāja I (28th year) and that the old inscriptions were re-engraved in the 14th year of Rājendra-Chōla I. (*S. I. I.*, Vol. V, Nos. 651 and 652) the later age of the writing is easily accounted for.

³ *Ante*, Vol. XV, p. 50.

⁴ *Ante*, Vol. XIX, p. 85.

⁵ *Ante*, Vol. IV, p. 336.

⁶ No. 38 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1895 (*S. I. I.*, Vol. V, No. 595).

expected that his son by this alliance may have been given the name of his maternal grandfather Kaṇṇara.¹ This appears to have actually been the case.

As it was Parāntaka I who had succeeded Āditya I, it may have to be presumed that either the Chōla prince Kaṇṇaradēva had predeceased his father, or that his claims for succession were superseded by the more powerful Parāntaka, the son of Āditya, probably by another queen. This may perhaps explain the attitude of Krishṇa II towards Parāntaka I, with whom he appears to have come into conflict as early as A. D. 912, with unfavourable results to himself.²

TEXT OF A.³

1 Svasti Śrī [||*] Madirai-[ko]ṇḍa kō-pParakēsaripanma[r*]kku yāṇḍu mup-
pattō[ṇ*]rāvadu Dāmar-kkōṭṭattu=tan kūṛa=[ch*]Chammaḷalai ūrōṇ-kaiyy-eḷuttu
[|*] Śōḷaperumāṇḍiḷaḷ Parāntakadēvar tirumagaḷār Gōvinda-Valla-
varaiyar mādhēviyār⁴ Takkōlattu Tiruvūḷal-Mādhēvarkku nandāviḷakk=ō⁵.....
ppōṇ koṇḍu chandir-ādittā-varai nīśadam uḷakk-eṇṇai aṭṭuvōm=āṇōm[|*] I[v*]v-
eṇṇai muṭṭil dhanmāsaṇattu nīśadi eṭṭarai-kāṇan daṇḍappaṭṭum nīśadi u⁶.....
m=āṇō[m*] [|*] Ivv-eṇṇai taṇḍa vandārkku nīśadam i[r*]jaṇḍu śōṟu kuḍupṇōm=
āṇō[m*] [|*] Tiru⁷.....śadam uḷakk-āmbaḍi tiruvuṇṇāḷigaikkēy koṇḍu vandu
aṭṭuvōm=āṇōm[||*].

TRANSLATION.

Hail! Prosperity!

In the **thirty-first year** of king **Parakēsarivarman**, who took **Madura**, this is the writing (written agreement) of the *Ur* of Chammaḷalai, (a village) in the sub-division of the same name in Dāmar-kōṭṭam.

The amount which the daughter of the Chōla king **Parāntakadēva**, (and) the queen of **Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar**, endowed for a perpetual lamp to (the god) Tiruvūḷal-Mahādēva of Takkōlam is [thirty *kaḷāṇḷu*]. Receiving this gold, we shall supply daily (one) *uḷakku* of oil, as long as the moon and the sun (endure).

If there is default in (the supply of) this oil, we shall supply daily the *uḷakku* of oil, after paying to the *Dhanmāsanam* a fine of eight and a half *kāṇam* (for) every day (of default). We shall give two meals a day to those who come to collect this oil.....We shall bring and supply this oil at the central shrine (itself) at one *uḷakku* per day.

TEXT OF B.⁸

1 Svasti Śrī [||*] Madirai-koṇḍa kō-pParakēsaripanma[r*]kku yāṇḍu muppatt-
oṇṇrāvadu Maṇaiyil-kōṭṭattu Purisai-nāṭṭu [Urā]ḍagatt=ūrōm kaiyy-eḷu(eḷu)ttu

¹ This practice of naming a grandson after the paternal, preferentially, or the maternal grandfather was common. Such instances from other royal families can be cited.

² *Anc.*, p. 114.

³ No. 245 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1921.

⁴ The letter *vi* is engraved below the line.

⁵ The stone is damaged here. The missing syllables ' *ṇruḷku vaiṭṭa poṇ muppadiṇ kaḷāṇḷu* [|*]' may be supplied from B.

⁶ The missing syllables are ' *ḷakku eṇṇai aṭṭuvō*'.

⁷ The syllables which are missing here cannot easily be guessed.

⁸ No. 246 of the Madras Epigraphical collection for 1921.

[*] Šōlaperumāṇaḍigaḷ Pirāntakadēvar tirumagaḷār Gōviynda-Val-
lavaraiyar māha(mahā)dēviyār Viramādēviyār Takkōlattu Tiruvūḷal-
Māha(Mahā)dēvarkku nundā-vi[la]kku [oṇṇukku*] vaiytta poṇ muppadin
kaḷaṇḍu [*].....¹ nai aṭṭuvōm-āṇōm [*] I[v*]v-eṇṇai muṭṭil
tanmmā(nmā)daṇattil niśadi eṭṭarai-kāṇam daṇḍapaṭṭu[m*] niśadam uḷakku eṇṇai
aṭṭu[vō].....² ṇaiykkus taṇḍa-vandā[r*]kku ni[śa*]dam iraṇḍu šōru kuḍuppōm
āṇōm ū[rō*]m [*] ūr kūḍi.....³ n kūḍattāṇ Ambakuṭṭi magan
Tambattāṇṇēṇ [*]ivai eṇ[n=e*]luttu [i[*]

TRANSLATION.

Hail! Prosperity!

In the **thirty-first year of king Parakēsarivarman who took Madura**, this is the writing (written agreement) of the *Ūr* of Urāḍagam, (a village) in Purisai-nāḍu, (a sub-division) of Maṇaiyil-kōṭṭam.

The gold which **Viramādēviyār, the daughter of the Chōḷa king Pirāntakadēva, (and) the queen of Gōvinda-Vallavaraiyar**, endowed for a perpetual lamp to (the god) Tiruvūḷal-Mahādēva of Takkōlam is thirty *kaḷaṇḍu*. Receiving this gold, (we) the *Ūr* shall supply (one) *uḷakku* of oil daily.

If the supply of oil fails, we shall supply the *uḷakku* of oil daily, after paying the *Dhanmā-saṇam* a fine of eight and a half *kāṇam* (for) every day (of default). We shall give two meals a day to those who come to collect this oil.

I, **Tambattāṇ**, son of **Ambakuṭṭi**,....., this is my writing (signature).

No. 30.—NALANDA SEAL OF VISHNUGUPTA.

By KRISHNA DEVA, M.A., DELHI.

This terracotta seal of Vishnugupta was excavated from Monastery Site No. 1 at **Nālandā** in 1927-28 together with the seals of Narasimhagupta, Kumāragupta II, Budhagupta and Vainyagupta⁵. It is fragmentary and only a quarter of the original seal consisting of the lower portion of the right half remains, the rest being broken and irretrievably lost. The extant fragment is of the shape of a triangle with the sides measuring $3'' \times 2\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{1}{8}''$ and contains portions of the last four lines of writing. There is no doubt that like the other Gupta seals from Nālandā, this seal was also oval in shape, as is indicated by the curvature of its edge, and contained representation of Garuḍa, flanked by the sun and the crescent, in the missing upper portion. On the analogy of the above mentioned seals, it may also be presumed that the full legend on this ran into eight lines, the upper four of which, though lost, may be restored from the other known seals with reasonable certainty.

The seal being the direct impression from a negative matrix, the legend stands out in relief. The execution of the writing is fairly neat and elegant. The **characters of the inscription**

¹ The missing syllables were probably 'i-ppoṇ koṇḍu chandr-āditya-varai niśadam uḷakku eṇ'.

² The missing syllables were probably 'm-āṇōm [*] Ivv-eṇ'.

³ The syllables *kku* appear to be superfluous.

⁴ The missing syllables in this portion cannot be correctly restored.

⁵ These seals are edited in Hirananda Sastri's *Nālandā and its Epigraphical Material* (A. S. I., Memoir No. 66), pp. 64 ff., pl. VIII.

belong to the so-called Eastern variety of the Gupta alphabet and closely resemble those of the Bhitari¹ and Nālandā seals of Kumāragupta II. *M* and *h* are of the developed Eastern type. *S* has both the looped and unlooped varieties, the former as in *tasya* (l. 3) and the latter as in *Narasimha*^o (l. 2). The height of the letters varies between $\frac{1}{10}$ " to $\frac{2}{12}$ ". The language is Sanskrit and the legend is in prose.

In respect of orthography the following points may be noted : (1) *Dh* has been invariably doubled in conjunction with a following *y* as in *pādānuddhyātō* (ll. 2 and 3). (2) *T* is everywhere doubled in conjunction with a following *r* as in *puttras* (ll. 2 and 3). (3) The *Upadhmānīya* sign has been used in *°nnaḥ=Parama*^o (l. 4).

The seal belongs to the *Paramabhāgava'a-Mahārājādhirāja Vishnugupta* of the Imperial Gupta family. Like the other Gupta seals, it records the genealogy of a succession of Gupta kings ending with Vishnugupta. Up to the name of *Kumāragupta* occurring in line 3, its legend, though only partially preserved, is identical with that on the Bhitari and Nālandā seals of Kumāragupta II, who was so far the last known sovereign in the connected genealogical succession of the Imperial Guptas. The present seal tells us that the issuer of this, viz. **Vishnugupta**, was the son and successor of Kumāragupta II, who in his turn was the son and successor of Narasimhagupta. The seal, therefore, is of great importance inasmuch as it carries the genealogy of the Gupta sovereigns a generation further than was hitherto known. It is unfortunate that the name of the mother of Vishnugupta and the wife of Kumāragupta II, which would, if known, have constituted a valuable addition to our knowledge, has been lost in the broken portion of the last line.

The seal also shows that the name of the father and predecessor of Narasimhagupta should be spelt as [**P**]ū[rugupta*] (l. 1) and not Puragupta as was hitherto done. The reading **Pūrugupta** is unmistakable on the fragmentary Nālandā seal of Narasimhagupta² and is also fairly clear on the originals of those of Kumāragupta II. The medial *ū* sign in the first letter of the name *Pūrugupta* is indicated by an additional stroke attached to the base of the letter, besides the downward elongation of its right limb, the latter sign by itself denoting the short medial as in *puttras* (ll. 2 and 3). In the second letter of the name, viz. *ru*, the medial *u* is shown by a small hook turned to left and joined to the foot of *r*. Palæographical considerations apart, the name *Pūrugupta* yields more plausible sense than *Puragupta* and fits better in the series of the grand and dignified names of the Gupta kings. As has been pointed out by Mr. Jagannath³, the first part of the Gupta nomenclature constituted the real or substantive name and yielded satisfactory meaning independently of the latter half, viz. *gupta*, which being family surname was a mere adjunct. *Pura*, by itself, is neither a complete nor a dignified name while *Pūru* is both. *Pūru* with the more common variant *Puru* may, like *Vainya* in *Vainyagupta*'s name, either signify the homonymous epic hero of the lunar race who was the ancestor of the Kauravas and the Pāṇḍavas, or may alternately mean *abundant* or *great*.

The Gupta chronology as known from the joint testimony of the seals of Narasimhagupta, Kumāragupta II and Vishnugupta is drawn below in a table form. The other Gupta records do not take us very far in this respect, as they end the genealogical list with Skandagupta who is called therein as the son and successor of Kumāragupta I. Fortunately for us, the *Mañjuśrīmū-*

¹ *J. A. S. B.* Vol. LVIII, pt. I, p. 89; *Ind Ant.*, Vol. XIX, p. 225.

² Hirananda Sastri, *loc. cit.* pl. VIII, b, l. 6.

³ *Journal of U. P. Historical Society*, Dec. 1940, p. 101. Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar also independently arrived at the reading *Purugupta*.

*lakalpa*¹ (henceforth called MMK.), which is a literary work of the 8th-9th centuries A. D., has preserved a skeleton of the Gupta history and chronology which may prove very valuable for a study of the subject. The succession according to this work is also shown below in juxtaposition to the list of the seals. In each case the rulers previous to Kumāragupta I have been omitted, since there is practically complete unanimity on the earlier Gupta chronology.

Succession according to Seals.

Kumāragupta (I)
|
Pūrugupta
|
Narasinihagupta
|
Kumāragupta (II)
|
Vishnugupta

Succession according to MMK.

Mahendra
|
S-initialled
|
Bāla
|
Kumāra (II)
|
U

That Mahendra is same as Kumāragupta I will be admitted on all hands. The identity of Bāla (Bālāditya) and Narasinihagupta also is beyond doubt. Kumāra(gupta II) is common to both the seals and the MMK. The name U (*Ukārākhya*) of the MMK., however, appears to be puzzling. But an examination of Vishnugupta's coins shows on the obverse between the king's feet the letter *U*², which no doubt is identical with U of the MMK. and represented probably the abbreviation of some *virūda* or nickname of Vishnugupta who is known from coins to have had another *virūda*, viz. Chandraditya. As regards the S-initialled (*Sakārādya*) king of the MMK., it will be readily recognised that he is the well-known king Skandagupta, son of Kumāragupta I. Against this name the succession list of the seals shows Pūrugupta. As all other names on one list correspond with those on the other, the presumption is that Skandagupta should be equated with Pūrugupta. It is, however, exactly at this point that the controversy starts. Pūrugupta, misspelt as Puragupta, has been so far supposed to be a brother and collateral of Skandagupta. Some scholars think that there was partition of the Gupta empire either during or after Skandagupta's reign, Skandagupta and his descendants ruling over some provinces and the collateral branch of Pūrugupta over the remaining portion of the kingdom. Others hold that Pūrugupta's branch succeeded Skandagupta or his descendants on the undivided imperial throne. All these theories rest on the supposition that Pūrugupta and Skandagupta were two different entities. This misconception arose from the fact that while the scholars took care to note Skandagupta and Pūrugupta being each called son of Kumāragupta I, they ignored that the Gupta records referred to each as *tatpādānudhyāta* in relation to Kumāragupta I. That the phrase *tatpādānudhyāta* had the technical sense of *immediate successor* in the imperial Gupta documents is clear from its omission in the case of Chandragupta II, who is invariably called *tatparigrhīta* or *tatpādaparigrhīta*³ in relation to his father, Samudragupta. The substitution of the usual *tatpādānudhyāta* by the improvised phrase *tatparigrhīta* or *tatpādaparigrhīta* is significant and was necessitated by the fact that Chandragupta II did not directly succeed his father but was preceded in the Imperial succession by his brother Rāmagupta. Skandagupta and Pūrugupta, therefore, each of whom is called the son and *immediate successor* of Kumāragupta I, must be taken as one and the same

¹ Jayaswal's edition, vv. 645 ff.; *Imperial History of India*, p. 33.

² See Allan, *Catalogue of Coins of the Gupta Dynasties*, pl. XXIII, 9. Jayaswal identified U of the MMK. with Prakāsāditya, whose coins also show the letter U (*Imperial History of India*, p. 39). If this identification be accepted, Prakāsāditya will become another *virūda* of Vishnugupta.

³ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, p. 27 (l. 9), p. 50 (l. 19), p. 53 (l. 4); *ibid.*, Vol. XV, p. 41 (l. 4); *A. S. I.*, *Memoir* No. 66, p. 64 (l. 3), p. 65 (l. 3), p. 66 (l. 3).

person. That Skandagupta was known by more names than one is attested by the epithet *vividhākhyā*, given him by the MMK.¹, which further informs us that he was also called Dēvarāja, this being the favourite name also of his grandfather, Chandragupta II². It is likely that Skandagupta came to be known as Pūrugupta meaning the Great Gupta in recognition of the unique service that he rendered to his family by inflicting a crushing defeat on the Hūnas, who had threatened the stability of the Gupta empire. Moreover, the absence of Pūrugupta's coins,³ when the issues of all his royal predecessors and of all his successors including Narasimhagupta, Kumāragupta II and Vishnugupta have been recovered, is not a little puzzling and can only be explained on the hypothesis of Pūrugupta's identity with one of the Gupta kings whose coins are known. Finally, there is no incontrovertible evidence in favour of a division of the empire either during or immediately after Skandagupta's reign to justify the assumption of Skandagupta and Pūrugupta being collaterals. The MMK⁴, on the other hand, explicitly states that the division and disintegration set in after the reign of the king U, i.e. Vishnugupta, who is the third in descent from Skandagupta or Pūrugupta. Thus, the joint testimony of the seals and the MMK., supported by the foregoing considerations, leaves no doubt as to the **identity of Pūrugupta with Skandagupta**.

The accuracy of the succession list of the seals, independently confirmed by the MMK., is further borne out by numismatic evidence. The Kālighāt hoard⁵ contained besides Chandragupta II's coins those of Narasimhagupta, Kumāragupta II and Vishnugupta⁶. This not only lends support to the succession of the last three sovereigns as given in the seals and the MMK., but also attests the statement of the MMK. that the period following Vishnugupta's time was troublous, as is indicated by the hoard having been buried presumably at the fag end of his reign. Yet another corroborative evidence is provided by the comparative weights⁷ of the coins. It is admitted by numismatists that the Gupta Coins tended to increase in weight with lapse of time and generally the heavier a Gupta Coin, the later is its date. Confining ourselves to the issues of the last three rulers, we find that the average weight of Narasimhagupta's Class I is 146·5 grains and of his Class II 146. Kumāragupta II's Class I weighs 143, while the two varieties of Class II give an average of 149·2 and 147·2. The coins of Vishnugupta average 148·3. It is further significant that the issues of no other Gupta king average anywhere between 146 and 148 grains. This progressive increase in weight standard affords an additional confirmation of the genealogical succession from Narasimhagupta through Kumāragupta II to Vishnugupta, as contained in the seal under discussion.

¹ Jayaswal's edition, v. 647.

² That Skandagupta also shared with Chandragupta II the *biruda* of Vikramāditya, with the variant Kramāditya, is known from coins. It is interesting to note that Skandagupta is referred to as Vikramāditya, king of Ayōdhya, in Paramārtha's *Life of Vasubandhu*, which also informs us that Bālāditya was Vikramāditya's crown-prince and successor (Allan, *Catalogue of Coins of the Gupta Dynasties*, p.1). This confirms the testimony of the MMK. that Skandagupta was succeeded by Bāla.

³ The coins formerly attributed to him really belong to Budhagupta, see *Indian Culture*, Vol. I, p. 691.

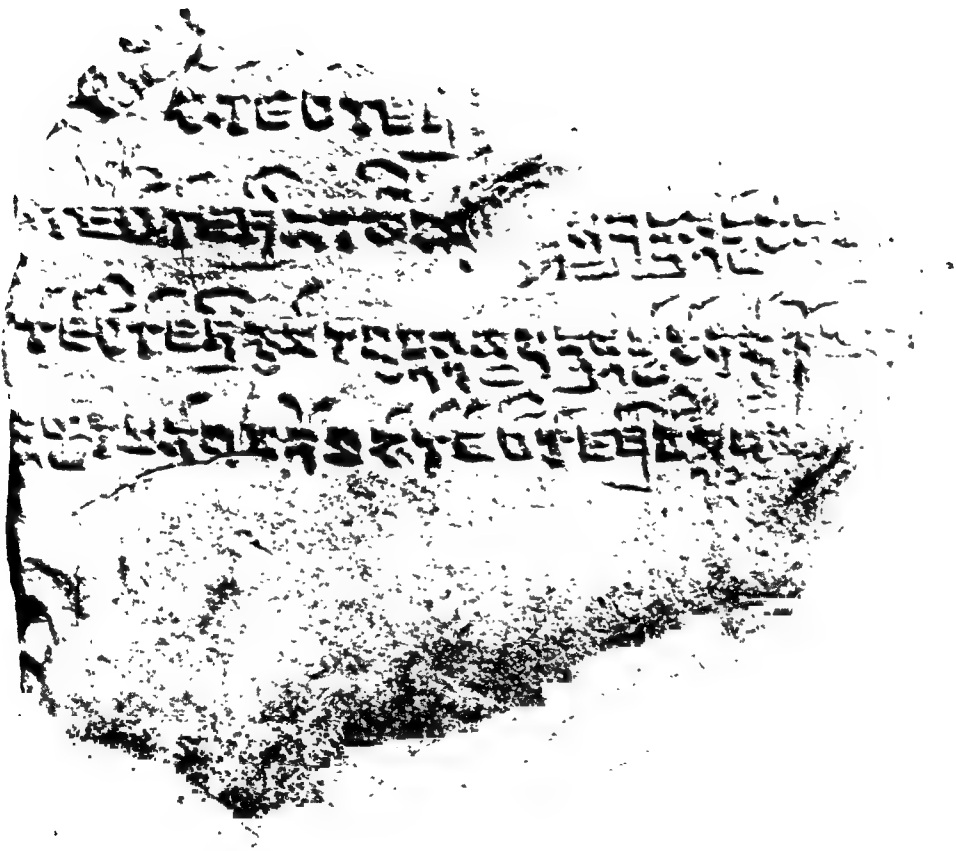
⁴ Jayaswal's edition, v. 675.

⁵ Allan, *Catalogue of Coins of the Gupta Dynasties*, p. cxxvi.

⁶ Dr. Altekar has identified Vishnugupta of the coins with the homonymous ruler of the Later Gupta family of Magadha, who flourished in the eighth century A. D., as is known from his newly discovered inscription dated in the year 117 (Harsha era)=723 A. D. (*Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. III, Part I, pp. 57 ff.). The learned professor had obviously no knowledge of the seal of an earlier Vishnugupta, which is under discussion. I think, he will now agree that the coins really belong to the Vishnugupta of the present seal.

⁷ Allan, *loc. cit.*, p. cxxxiv.

NALANDA SEAL OF VISHNUGUPTA.



(From a photograph).

TEXT.¹

1. . . . bārājādh[i]r[ā]ja-śr[ī*]-[P*]ū
2. . . . h[ā*]r[ā*]j[ā*]dhirāja-śrī-Narasimha[guptas]=tasya puttras=tat-pādānuddh[yā]
t[ō].
3. . . . rājādhirāja-śrī-Kumāraguptas=tasya puttras=tat-pādānuddhyātō Ma[hā]-
4. . . . nnaḥ=Paramabhāgavatō Mahārājādhirāja-śrī-Vishṇu[u][p[taḥ]]*].

No. 31.—A NOTE ON THE BALASORE PLATE OF BHANU[DATTA].

BY R. K. GHOSHAL, M A., CALCUTTA.

In a previous issue of this journal,² the late Mr. N. G. Majumdar published four copper-plate inscriptions belonging to three different chiefs who ruled over the region now covered by the Balasore District of Orissa. One of these³ speaks of a 'king' (*Mahārāja*) called Bhānudatta and is dated in the year 5 on the 17th day of Phālguna. One more copper-plate grant, however, belonging apparently to the same personage, had been discovered, some time earlier, but somehow it escaped the notice of Mr. Majumdar. This plate was turned up in course of ploughing a field near the modern town of Balasore⁴ in Orissa. The owner of the holding, the late Mr. Ziauddin, lately Lecturer at the Viśva-Bhārati of Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, made over the plate to Mr. Haridas Mitra who published a paper on the same in 1935⁵.

This is, in common with the Sōrō plates, a single sheet of copper bearing inscription on both sides. It measures 7·2" by 3·7". The record is complete in eighteen lines. A seal, which appears to have been soldered on to the central left margin of the plate, is reported to have been destroyed.

The inscription is one of *Mahāpratihāra*, *Mahārāja*, *Mahāśmanta Bhānu*. It records a gift which was issued from the royal encampment (*vāsaka*) at Sarēphā,⁶ of the village of Nandīraṭa⁷ to four Brāhmaṇas, named Priyamitrasvāmin, Vāṭamitrāsavāmin, Dhruva-mitrāsavāmin and Āruṅgamitrāsavāmin, belonging to the Vatsa *gōtra* and to the Vājasaneyya *charaṇa* (of the Yajurveda). Before its formal sanction, the gift was announced before a number of officials entrusted with administration of the district (*vishaya*) called Sarēphāhāra. The grant was written by the *Sādhivigrahika* Aruṇadatta and 'heated' (*tāpitam*) by the *Pēdāpālaka* Pratishṭhitachandra. The date given (in figures only) is Year 5, the 4th day of Mārgaśīrsha.

There can be no doubt that the present record belongs to *Mahārāja* Bhānudatta already known to us from the Sōrō inscription. The general character of the plates, the

¹ From the original as well as from excellent photographs which I owe to the kindness of the Director General of Archaeology in India.

² Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 197 ff. and plates.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 203.

⁴ The exact findspot has not been mentioned. One may however presume that it cannot have been very far from the place where the Sōrō plates were found.

⁵ *Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XI, pp. 611 ff. and plate.

⁶ Mitra reads *Sagadhā*.

⁷ The name of the village appears to be somewhat damaged. I cannot however see *Bandiraka* as read by Mr. Mitra (*I. H. Q.*, Vol. XI, p. 621).

script, the names of donees and the officers responsible for execution of the documents leave no room for doubt as to the identity of both Bhānu and Bhānudatta as being one and the same person. The present record presumably belongs to an earlier part of Bhānu[datta]'s career : in fact, the dates given suggest a little over three months' priority over the Sōrō record.

The chiefs of the Sōrō plates must have ruled over a severely circumscribed area, and that too at the pleasure of some higher power. Bhānudatta and perhaps Sōmadatta (of the Sōrō plates), between whom some kinship has been claimed,¹ may well have worked as deputies to an overlord whose personality remains obscure : he is apparently vaguely referred to as *śrī-Paramabhāṭṭāraka* in the inscriptions.²

The date given is the year 5, the 4th day of Mārgaśīrsha. The year is apparently regnal. Palæographically, our record is to be assigned to the second half of the sixth century A. D.

Of the localities mentioned, Sarēphā has already been identified by Mr. N. G. Majumdar with Sōrō in the Balasore District of Orissa. It was apparently the headquarters of the district (*vi-haya*) called Sarēphāhāra in the present inscription. I am unable to locate the village Nandiraṭa.

¹ Above, Vol. XXIII, p. 200.

² I would suggest that he may have been the *Paramādevatīdhūdevata*, *Paramabhāṭṭāraka* Śambhuyāsa (emended reading) mentioned as the overlord of a chief called *Mahārāja Śivarāja* in the Patiāṅkellā (Cuttack District, Orissa) plate (above, Vol. IX, pp. 287 ff. and plate) and also in 'Plate A' of the Sōrō grants (*ibid*, Vol. XXIII, pp. 201-202 and plate). From the joint evidence of the Patiāṅkellā and the Sōrō plates it is reasonable to assume that Śambhuyāsa ruled as an independent ruler over the wide tract of country anciently known as Tōsali and now roughly covering the districts of Balasore, Puri and Cuttack. *Mahārāja* Sōmadatta and *Mahārāja* Bhānudatta of the Sōrō plates were evidently more or less equal in status to *Mahārāja Śivarāja* of the Patiāṅkellā grant. It seems very significant that both Sōmadatta and Bhānudatta hold such feudatory titles as *Mahāpratihāra*, *Mahāsāmanta*, *Mahābalādhikṛita*, etc.

No. 32.—MANGRAON INSCRIPTION OF VISHNUGUPTA'S TIME; THE YEAR 17

BY PROF. A. S. ALTEKAR, BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY

Mangraon is a small village in the Buxar Sub-Division of the Shāhābād District of the Province of Bihār, situated about 14 miles south-west of Buxar. The existence at this place of the present inscription, which is being **edited here for the first time** was brought to my notice by Mr. Narmadeshver Roy, a 4th year student of the Benares Hindu University, and a son of Babu Braj Mohon Roy, the Zamindar of the village. Mr. Narmadeshver Roy supplied me with a fairly good clay-impression of this record in December 1940. As however some points were not clear from the impression, I visited the village on the 14th of March 1941 in order to inspect the inscribed tablet and take its ink-impressions for publication. From local enquiries I learnt that the stone tablet was recovered during the excavation of a well several decades ago by Choudhari Rambaran Roy, the grandfather of the present Zamindar. The tablet lay in the Zamindar's family all these years, defying the attempts at decipherment of the simple village folk as well as of the more learned touring officers.¹

The present size of the tablet is 13" by 11". But I learn that its original size was bigger, as it was recently chipped in order to make it more portable. Luckily these chipping operations have not damaged the record in any way. In fact the present record is the best preserved record, so far discovered, of the Later Guptas of Magadha.

The inscription consists of nine lines. Each line is 11" in length and contains on the average 27 letters. The height of an ordinary letter is about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch; conjuncts with subscripts are about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high.

In l. 9, the record describes the engraver as an expert and a glance at the record will show that the praise is fairly well deserved. The engraver has incised the inscription in a very beautiful manner. He believed in ornamental flourishes for medial vowels and has introduced them wherever convenient. But even this talented engraver has committed a few mistakes, to which attention will be drawn in due course.

The **characters** of the present record closely resemble those of the Udaypur inscription of Aparājita, dated Vikrama Samvat 718² and the Jhālrapāṭaṇ inscriptions of king Durgagaṇa³, one of which is dated in [Vikrama] Samvat 746. The ornamental variety of medial vowels of the present record is seen in a further developed form in the above records. The characters of the present record also bear a general resemblance to those of the Aphaṣṭ⁴ and Dṣṣ-Baraṇār⁵ inscriptions hailing from Bihār and belonging to almost contemporary times. They exhibit the characteristics of the so-called *Kuṣṭha* characters; for the letters *va*, *ta*, *pa*, *ma*, *bha*, etc., show a distinct slanting curve or line at their right hand bottoms. It is interesting to note that the medial vowels *ā*, *i*, *ē*, and *ō* are denoted in two ways. The usual forms of these medial vowels occur only sparingly in the record; the forms with artistic flourishes and graceful curves predominate in every line; cf. *mē* in *paramēśvara*, l. 1; *pō* in *tapōvana*, l. 2; *si* and *tī* in *siddhāyatana-tīrthāvagāhana*, l. 4; etc.

Numerical symbols for 10, 7 and 2 occur in l. 2. The numerical symbol for 10 is an ornamental variety of the usual symbol; the other two have the normal forms.

¹ [The inscription has since been presented to the Patna Museum.—Ed.]

² Above, Vol. IV, plate facing p. 30.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. V, plates facing pp. 180 and 181.

⁴ Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, No. 42.

⁵ *Ibid.*, No. 46.

The main record is in prose ; the names of the writer and the engraver are, however, given at the end in one *Anuṣṭubh* verse. The language is **Sanskrit** ; the only influence of Prakrit that we can trace is in the name of the donor Avimuktajja, whose spelling is obviously a Prakritisation of the original word Avimuktārya. Curiously enough the rules of *sandhi* are disregarded in that portion of the record which gives the different epithets of the donor ; in other places, however, they are followed. In l. 8 in the concluding portion of the imprecatory sentence both the writer and the engraver have committed mistakes ; they will be indicated in the notes to the text.

Orthography calls for a few remarks only. *V* is written for *b* : cf. *prativaddha* for *prati-baddha* in l. 3, *kuṭumbvinām* for *kuṭumbinām* in l. 5., etc. When *r* is the second letter in a conjunct, the first one is doubled only when it is a *t*, not otherwise ; cf. *Mitra*. l. 3. *grāmakē*, l. 5.

The inscription refers itself to the reign of **Mahārājādhirāja-Paramēśvara-śrī-Vishṇugupta**. Neither the name of the dynasty of the king nor his genealogy has been given in the record ; but there can be no doubt that **he is to be identified with king Vishṇugupta of the dynasty of the Later Guptas of Magadha**, who was the grandson of Ādityasēna and the father of Jivitagupta II. The find-spots of the Aḥṣad¹, Shāhpur², and Mandār hill³ inscriptions of the former and the Dēo-Baraṇār inscription⁴ of the latter show that they were ruling over the Shāhābād and Gayā Districts of Bihār ; our inscription, hailing from the Shāhābād District, shows that the kingdom of Vishṇugupta mentioned in it included that area. The Shāhpur inscription of Ādityasēna belongs to 672 A. D. The time of his grandson Vishṇugupta would be the first quarter of the 8th century A. D. and the palaeography of our record shows that its Vishṇugupta flourished at about the same time. We cannot suppose that Vishṇugupta of the present record may have been a homonymous and contemporary feudatory of Vishṇugupta, the grandson of Ādityasēna. For even a wandering monk has not forgotten to give him his full imperial titles in the short tablet ordered to be engraved by him.

The present inscription, which is the first record of Vishṇugupta's reign to come to light, is dated on the second day of the bright half of the month of Śrāvana in the 17th regnal year of the emperor Vishṇugupta. The year is given first in words as *saṁvatsarē saptaśaṣṭhē* and then in numerals as *saṁvat 10, 7*.

The form of the stop *t* in *saṁvat* is rather unusual. The form of the stop *ṇ* in *prati-pādika-vān*, l. 7, is indicated by the normal form of *na* with a slanting but disconnected stroke given below. We therefore expect that *t* in *saṁvat* also should be similarly indicated by the normal form of *ta* with a slanting stroke below the letter. What we actually have is however something different. There is no slanting stroke below this letter and the usual triangular serif with its base above is absent. The resulting symbol bears a close resemblance to the symbol for 100 occurring on the silver coins current in the home provinces of the Gupta empire⁵, and I had therefore once held⁶ that the date given in numerals was not identical with that given in words, that

¹ *Ibid.*, No. 42.

² *Ibid.*, No. 43.

³ *Ibid.*, Nos. 44 and 45.

⁴ *Ibid.*, No. 46.

⁵ Compare for instance the symbol for 100 on the coins of Skandagupta illustrated in Allan's *Catalogue of Indian Coins, Gupta Dynasties*, Pl. XXI, Nos. 14-16.

⁶ *Journal of Numismatic Society of India*, 1941, p. 57.

it was to be read as *saṃva* 100, 10, 7, and that it was to be referred to the Harsha era.¹ A reconsideration of the question in the light of the observations kindly forwarded to me by Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra has led me to the conclusion that though the disputed symbol bears a close resemblance to the symbol for 100 occurring on the silver coins of Skandagupta, we have to take it as an unusual form of the stop *t*, which sometimes occurs side by side with its normal form. In the Kāri-talāi stone inscription of Lakshmanarāja², dated [Kalachuri] *saṃvat* 593, we have the ordinary form of the stop *t* in the word *jagat* in l. 2 and that of the stop *m* in the word *iyam* in l. 14; whereas the special form of the stop *t*, fairly similar to the disputed letter in the present epigraph, occurs in the word *saṃvat* in l. 14. The symbol for 100 on the coins of Skandagupta is not used even in contemporary inscriptions; it is therefore unlikely to be revived in a record, which is more than two hundred years later than the coins. I therefore now think that the record gives the same date once in words and then again in numerals.

The chronology of the Later Guptas of Magadha is still not definitely settled. Let us see if we can determine the date of Vishnugupta mentioned in the present record. The founder of the line, Mādhavagupta, seems to have survived his patron and friend, king Harsha, by about 10 years. For, his son Ādityasēna, who is known to have performed three horse-sacrifices³, is seen to be assuming not even imperial titles in his Shāhpur inscription belonging to 672 A. D. We therefore presume that his martial exploits must have been performed subsequent to 672 A. D. and that he must have ruled at least for a decade more. The commencement of his reign and the end of that of his father Mādhavagupta should therefore be placed in c. 655 A. D. The duration of his reign would be c. 655 to 682 A. D. The account, which Hwui Lun, a Korean pilgrim and contemporary of I-tsing, has left of a temple built at Bodhagayā, supports the view that Ādityasēna died and was succeeded by Dēvagupta in c. 682 A. D. For, this pilgrim was living at Nālandā from c. 675 to 685 A. D. and refers to a temple then recently built by the king 'Sun-Army' and to the willingness of the then ruling king of Eastern India, king Dēvavarman, to restore the site of the dilapidated China temple to Chinese priests, if they would come to India from China⁴. Now it is clear that king Sun-Army who had built the temple can be none other than Āditya(sun)sēna(army), and king Dēvavarman, who had succeeded him not long before c. 685 A. D., is obviously the same as Dēvagupta, the son of Ādityasēna and the father of Vishnugupta, the king of the present record. Dēvagupta may therefore with fair certainty be presumed to have begun to rule in c. 682 A. D. and to have ended his reign in c. 702 A. D. The commencement of the reign of Vishnugupta would thus be in c. 702 A. D. **We now know for the first time from the present record that he ruled at least for 17 years**; his reign therefore may have lasted from c. 702 to c. 725 A. D.⁵

The reign period of Jivitagupta II, the successor of Vishnugupta, would be the second quarter of the 8th century A. D. Very probably he was the Gauḍa king overthrown and killed

¹ The era used by Ādityasēna in his Shāhpur inscription, dated in the year 66, is usually taken to be the Harsha era; see Fleet, *Corpus*, Vol. III, pp. 208-10. There is therefore nothing improbable in assuming that his grandson Vishnugupta may have continued the same reckoning. The opening expression in the Dēś-Bara-nārk inscription of Jivitagupta II, the son of the Vishnugupta of the present record, is a close copy of the opening expression in the charters of Harsha. This would show that the later Gupta secretariate was under a considerable influence of the traditions of Harsha's administration. The use of the Harsha era in its documents need thus cause no surprise.

² *Ante*, Vol. XXIII, plate facing p. 260. My attention was drawn to this plate by Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra.

³ See Deoghar inscription, *Corpus*, Vol. III, pp. 212-13, n. 3.

⁴ Beal, *Life of Hsien Tsang*, Introduction, pp. xxxvi-ii.

⁵ It is interesting to note that the year 117 of the Harsha era, corresponding to 723 A. D. can fall within this period; see above n. 1.

by Yaśovarman of Kanauj. This incident probably took place in c. 745 A. D. Jivitagupta is the last king of the Later Gupta line known so far. After his death there seems to have arisen anarchy in Eastern India, which was put an end to by Gōpāla, the founder of the Pāla dynasty, whose accession is usually placed in c. 755 A. D. The present record thus tends to show that the interval between Jivitagupta and Gōpāla was a short one of about ten years.

Vishnugupta of the present record cannot be identified with the king who issued gold coins of the heavier weight standard with the letters *vi* and *shnu* written perpendicularly under the arms on the obverse side; for the latter flourished in the last quarter of the 5th century and was a son of Kumāragupta II as shown by a fragmentary seal of his, recently discovered and published¹.

Let us now proceed to consider the main contents of the inscription. It records a grant made on the second day of the bright half of the month of Śrāvaṇa of the 17th regnal year of Vishnugupta by a person named Avimuktajja or Avimuktārya. As the very name suggests, this person was a Śaiva and our record describes him in ll. 3-4 as a worthy whose body had been sanctified by baths at several Śaiva holy places. He is further described as devoted to the teachings of his own system and a resident of Kuṭukka country. Where this Kuṭukka country was situated is not easy to find out. Avimuktajja was a much travelled man and it is not impossible that his Kuṭukkadēśa may not have been situated in the province of Bihār. He may have made a donation to a temple in Bihār, because its sanctity may have appealed to him. If, however, we assume that *Kuṭukkadēśa* is a mistake for *Kukkuṭadēśa*, then Avimuktajja becomes a Bihāri; for there was a hill called Kukkuṭapādagiri near Gayā in Bihār, which has been mentioned both by Yuan Chwang² and I-tsing³. The country round Gayā may well have been known as Kukkuṭadēśa and it may perhaps have been misspelt as Kuṭukkadēśa in our record⁴.

The donation was for the purpose of burning a lamp in the temple of Subhadrēśvara located in the village of Aṅgāra. The record however does not enable us to find out how exactly the arrangement was made for burning the lamp. Ll. 5-6 state that Avimuktajja purchased from all the householders of the village of Aṅgāra the quantity of one *pala* of oil (every day) to last till such time as the moon, the sun and the earth may endure. The usual practice in ancient India, when it was intended to burn a lamp at a temple, was to make an investment, the interest of which would be sufficient to meet the daily expenses of the necessary oil. What Avimuktajja seems to have done was to hand over to the householders of Aṅgāra a sum of money sufficient for this purpose; the latter, or more correctly their Panchayat, then guaranteed to him that in return for the deposit kept with them, they would undertake to supply one *pala* of oil to the manager of the Subhadrēśvara temple. Avimuktajja thus managed to purchase for perpetuity one *pala* of oil every day; his tablet has therefore been fittingly described as *kṛaya-chirikā* or

¹ Ante, Vol. XXVI, pp. 235 ff.

² Watters, *Yuan Chwang*, Vol. II, p. 143.

³ Takakusu, *A Record of the Buddhist Religion*, by I-tsing, Introduction, p. xxxiii.

⁴ [It may be pointed out that Kuṭuka-dēśa is mentioned in the *Bhāgavata Purāṇa* (Skandha 3, ch. 6) in connection with the wanderings of Rishabhadēva (cf. *Kōṅka-Vēṅka-Kuṭakān=dakṣhiṇa=Karnāṭakān=dēśān=yadrīk-chhay=ōpaṇatāḥ*). Kuṭuka is identified with Gadag in the Dhārwar District of the Bombay Province. There are several ancient temples in the town and its neighbourhood and there is nothing against its being identical with Kuṭukka of the present record. Avimukta was a much travelled person and it is not unlikely that he made a small endowment in the temple of Subhadrēśvara in the course of his pilgrimage to reputed Śaiva shrines. Mr. C. R. Krishnamachari points out that the modern Coorg country is meant by Kuṭukka. Kuṭagam (modern Coorg) appears in early Tamil literature so far back as the 2nd century A. D.—Ed.]

' a purchase document ' in the last line. It is unfortunate that the record should not have given us more details of this arrangement ; if this had been done, we would have got a welcome glimpse of the Panchayat administration and the rates of interest prevailing in Bihār at the time.

The village of **Āṅgāra** where the Subhadrēśvara temple was situated, must have obviously been either the village of Mangraon where the tablet exists, or its close neighbour, Sangraon, where there are the remains of a Śiva temple still existing. Mangraon and Sangraon are in fact twin villages, hardly separated by a furlong from each other. It is not impossible that Sangraon and Mangraon may together have constituted the village Āṅgāra, mentioned in our record. In Mangraon, there is no Śiva temple at present. In Sangraon, on the other hand, there is a Śiva temple, which is quite modern in its structure, but which is situated on a mound, about 15 feet high, which undoubtedly represents the ruins of an earlier temple. A little scratching of the surface done by us during our visit to the place revealed the existence of buried walls. The present temple contains an image of Śiva, but it is not at present locally known as Subhadrēśvara. There can, however, be little doubt that the present Śiva temple is built over the remains of the temple of Subhadrēśvara mentioned in our record.

The interpretation of the locative clause, *Chundaskilā...pushpa-paṭṭē*. (ll 2-3) presents some difficulty. The last letter of this clause, *ṭṭē*, cannot be read as *ṅgē*, as becomes quite clear from its comparison with *ṇḍ* and *grā* in *Āṅgāra-grāmakē* in l. 5. *Pushpa-paṭṭa* denotes a strip of flower garden. It was attached (*pratibaddha*) to Śrī-Mitra-Kēśavadēva situated (*pratishṭhita*) in the penance grove at Chundaskilā. It is possible to interpret *pratishṭhita* as 'residing' ; the record would then purport to state that the garden belonged to a person called Śrī-Mitra-Kēśavadēva, who resided (perhaps as a *saṁnyāsin*) in the penance grove at Chundaskilā. A better meaning can be obtained by supplying the term *dēvalaya* after *dēva* or by emending it into that expression. The expression would then refer to a flower garden attached to the temple of Śrī-Mitra-Kēśava situated in the penance grove at Chundaskilā. The close association of the sun and Viṣṇu in one temple suggested by the expression under review is, however, not frequently met with. The syntactical connection of the locative *pushpa-paṭṭē* is not very clear. Probably we have to suppose that Avimuktajja was residing in that garden at Chundaskilā, when he decided to make the present grant to the temple in Āṅgāra. There is nothing improbable in this ; for, as will be soon shown, the distance between Āṅgāra village and Chundaskilā was only about six miles. Alternatively, if we take Śrī-Mitra-Kēśavadēva as the name of an individual, the expression may refer to a flower garden (in Āṅgāra village) that may have been laid out by him. The first interpretation is more probable.

Of the **places** mentioned in the record, **Āṅgāra** has been already identified above, either with Mangraon or its close neighbour Sangraon. Mr. S. V. Sohoni, I.C.S., Sub-Divisional Officer, Buxar, informs me that there is a village named Chhunnī, only six miles to the north-east of Mangraon. His suggestion that Chundaskilā should be identified with it is perfectly sound. Mr. Sohoni further informs me that the Buxar Sub-Division is even now traditionally known as the place of the penance grove of the famous sage Viśvāmītra ; Rāma is said to have killed Tātakā somewhere within its boundaries. Even today there exist a number of localities in this region known as penance groves ; the penance grove of Chundaskilā mentioned in our record must be one such locality. We may perhaps hazard one more conjecture. *Kilālapa* means a demon and Sunda, the husband of the notorious Tātakā¹, may have been known as Sunda-kilālapa. Is it not unlikely that his forest or *vana*, which subsequent to his wife's death may have become a

¹ *Rāmāyaṇa*, I, 24, 26,

tapōvana of Aryan *rishis*, may have been known as *Sunda-kilālapa-tapōvana* and later corrupted into *Chundaskilā-tapōvana* of our record? Philology would show that such a change is but natural. If this conjecture is correct, it would follow that the village Chhunnī in the Buxar Sub-Division was once upon a time believed to be the place of residence of Tātakā and her husband Sunda.

TEXT 1

- 1 ॐ² [1*] महाराजाधिराजपरमेश्वरश्रीविष्णुगुप्तदेवप्रवर्द्धमानविजयराज्य-
- 2 सम्बत्सरे सप्तदशे सम्बत् १० ७ आषाढशुदि २ चुन्दस्कीलातपोवन-
- 3 प्रतिष्ठितश्रीमिन्नकेशवदेवप्रतिव(ब)हपुष्पपट्टे स्वसिद्धान्ताभिरत³ अने-
- 4 कशिवसिद्ध्यतनतीर्थावगाहनपवित्रोक्ततनुः कुटुम्बदेशी-
- 5 य⁴ अविमुक्तजः⁵ अङ्गारग्रामके सकलकुटुम्ब(म्बि)नां सकाशादाचन्द्रा-
- 6 कञ्चित्समकालीन⁶ तैलस्य पलमेकमुपक्रोय भगवतः
- 7 श्रीसुभद्रेश्वरदेवस्य प्रदीपार्थं प्रतिपादितवान् ॥ एवं योन्यथा
- 8 करोति यदन्नापार्यस्तनद⁷वाप्नोतीति ॥ लिखिता देवदत्तेन
- 9 सञ्चिता क्रयचौरिका । उक्तीर्णा सूत्रधारेण कुलादित्येन धीमता ॥

TRANSLATION

Om. On the second day of the bright half of (the month of) Śrāvaṇa of the seventeenth victorious and prosperous regnal year of *Mahārājādhirāja Paramēśvara Śrī-Vishṇugupta*, (while residing) in the flower garden attached to (the temple of) Śrī-Mitra and Kēśava, situated in the penance grove of *Chundaskilā*, *Avimuktajja* (i.e., revered Avimukta), a resident of the *Kuṭukka* country, who was devoted to his own native doctrine and whose body had been sanctified by baths at numerous holy places connected with Śiva, purchased from the householders of the village of *Angāra* one *pala* of oil (per day), to last contemporaneously with the moon, the sun and the earth, and offered it to the holy Subhadrēśvara for the purpose of a lamp. He who will set at naught this arrangement will get whatever sin is here.

This concise document of sale⁸ was composed by *Dēvadatta* and engraved by the talented mason *Kulāditya*.

¹ From the original tablet and ink-impression.

² Denoted by a symbol.

³ Read °bhiratō=°nēka-.

⁴ Read °dēśtyō=°vi°.

⁵ Read °jjō=°ngāra-.

⁶ The *anusvāra* has been written not above the letter *na* but in a line with its horizontal line.

⁷ Here the text is defective and its restoration is not free from difficulty. The neuter *yad* would suggest that the expression *pāpaṃ* should follow; the reading °tr=āpāyaṃ is however clear and so it appears that the word *apāya* was also before the mind of the composer. If, however, we prefer to read this word, we shall have to change *yad* into *yō*. The letter *sta* following *yaṃ* seems to be a mistake of the engraver for *sa*; we want a *saḥ* to correspond with *yaḥ* coming earlier. The next letter looks like *na*, but it is to be corrected into *ta*. The succeeding letter is less likely to be *ma* than *da*, with an unnecessary stroke to its right, caused by the slipping of the instrument. The restoration therefore should be *yad=atra pāpaṃ sa tad=avāpnōti*; the emendation *yō=tr=āpāyaṃ=sa tsm=avāpnōti* is less likely to have been intended by the composer.

⁸ [Both *chirikā* and its variant *chīṭhikā* (Hindi *chīṭhī*) have been used in the sense of a document in the *Lēkhaṇapaddhati*, pp. 16, 57. This book is however a late work belonging to the fifteenth century; the use of the word *chīṭhikā* in the present record in the sense of a document is therefore noteworthy. *Krayachīṭhikā* is indeed a synonym of *kṛaya-lēkhya* which is defined by Bṛihaspati as follows:—

Gṛiha-khēṭṭr-ādikaṃ kṛtvā tulya-mūly-ākṣhar-ānvitam|patraṃ kāṛṇyatē yat=tu kṛaya-lēkhyam tad=uchyatē||
The word *chīṭhī* also denotes 'a manner of writing with strokes'. —B. C. C.]

No. 33.—KHADIPADA IMAGE INSCRIPTION OF THE TIME OF SUBHAKARA

By A. GHOSH, M.A., NEW DELHI

Khadipadā is a small village, about 24 miles to the south-east of Bhadrak, a subdivisional town in the Balasore District, and about 8 miles to the north-west of Jājpur, an important town in the Cuttack District. I visited the place in May 1940, on the basis of some valuable information from Professor G. S. Das, B.A. (London), Secretary, Provincial Museum, Cuttack ; and found that the remains of the place consisted of a low mound and some Buddhist sculptures, including some colossal statues of the Buddha, all of which bespeak the former existence of a modest Buddhist establishment at the place. Among other sculptures I found a half-buried image of Padmapāṇi (height $4\frac{1}{2}'$), which was fully dug out in my presence and revealed the existence of an inscription on its proper left edge. The image has now been removed to the Provincial Museum, Cuttack, and I am thankful to Professor Das for supplying me with two inked impressions of the inscription as well as for consenting to my editing it in the pages of this journal.

The **inscription** consists of only one line and is about 4' in length. The **letters** are carefully engraved, their **size** ranging from $\frac{3}{4}"$ to $1\frac{3}{4}"$. As regards **orthography**, attention may be drawn to the doubling of the consonants *m* and *ṇ* after *r* in *dharmma* and *utkirṇṇa*, and of *t* before *r* in *sūtradhāra* ; contrast, however, *āchārya*. A curious mistake occurs in the word *Rāhularuchinām*, the correct form being *-nāmā*. The record is **undated** but **palæographical considerations** lead us to ascribe it to the **seventh century A. D.** The characters are more or less similar to those of the Ganjām plates of Śaśāṅka¹, which, being of an undisputable date, form an important land mark in South-eastern Palæography. A point which should be noted here is that though the letter *bh* presents an earlier form in this inscription, the letter *s* has certainly a later form. Generally speaking, however, the difference in age between these two inscriptions could not have been very great.

The inscription refers itself to the time of **Śubhākara**, who, to judge from the name, no doubt belonged to the **Bhauma dynasty**. The **genealogy** of the Bhauma kings was in a great confusion till recently owing to the different readings of the dates in their inscriptions and to the indeterminateness of the era to which they were to be referred. However, with the discovery of the Talcher plates of Śivakara², the genealogy, irrespective of the readings of the numerical symbols, can now be regarded as fairly established. According to the genealogy worked out by Misra on the basis of the available data³ there were four kings of the name of Śubhākara, the Neulpur plates⁴ belonging to the first king of that name. If we compare the letters of the present inscription with those of the Neulpur grant, we find that the latter have on the whole a more developed appearance. Thus, the letter *ch* in the latter has a proto-Nāgarī form, while this inscription has the archaic Gupta type. Particularly noticeable is the difference between the forms of the letter *bh* : while the letter in our inscription has a straight horizontal baseline, the Neulpur grant has a hollow (or even filled up) wedge attached to the lower left corner of the letter. The letter *h* is denoted by two signs in the present inscription, one being of the so-called Western Gupta type, very similar in appearance to *bh* (cf. *hā* in *mahā*) and the other a screw like form (cf. *hu* in

¹ Above, Vol. VI, p. 143.² B. Misra, *Orissa under the Bhauma Kings*, p. 40.³ *Ibid.*, p. 71.⁴ Above, Vol. XV, p. 1. The date of the plates has been read as 8 by the editor, 54 by Misra (*loc. cit.*), and 800 4 by Bhandarkar (*List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, No. 1751n.). The genealogy proposed by Bhandarkar on p. 380 of his *List* can no longer be accepted.

Rāhula); while in the Neulpur grant only the latter and more developed form is met with. At the same time, it must be noted that ś has an archaic appearance in the Neulpur grant¹. With this single exception, all other letters in the grant are more developed than in this inscription.

All these facts tend to show that Śubhākara of the present inscription was earlier in date than the author of the Neulpur charter², who is the first king of that name in the Bhauma lineage till now known. This new Śubhākara may have existed between Lakshmīkara, who is the earliest known member of the dynasty³, and Kshēmañkara, from whom we have an unbroken genealogy for nine generations.

The inscription records the dedication of the image by Rāhularuchi, who is styled *Mahāmaṇḍalācchārya* and *Paramaguru*, i.e., 'the teacher of the great division' and 'the supreme preceptor'. The former does not sound like a self-assumed title, but seems to be a dignity conferred or recognized by a political authority. As the earlier Bhaumas are known to have been Buddhists⁴, it is likely that there was a state pontiff of Buddhism under them. It also appears from this term that the area over which they held sway had the status of a *maṇḍala*, or, in other words, they began their political career as *Maṇḍalapatis*, till the later members of the dynasty assumed the full-fledged independent titles of *Paramabhaṭṭāraka Manārājādhirāja Paramēśvara*.

TEXT

Om⁵ Śrī-Śubhākaradēva⁶-rājyē mahāmaṇḍalācchārya-paramaguru-Rāhularuchi-nām⁷
tasya dē[ya*]-dharmmō=yam | utkirṇam Kuḍhā (?)-sūtradhārēṇaḥ⁸ ||

No. 34.—PRINCE OF WALES MUSEUM PLATES OF GOVINDARAJA : SAKA 732

By MORESHWAR G. DIKSHIT, B. A., POONA

This set of **three copper-plates**, with one of the two rings and the seal, is preserved in the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Bombay. It was purchased from Mr. Sanabhai Bhundarbhai Master, of Vadaj, Baroda State, in 1938. It is reported that one Thakore Vajesing found it while ploughing his field at **Bhilodia**, near Vadaj. It was through the kind offices of the Curator, Mr. R. G. Gyani, M.A., that I gained access to the original plates. He also supplied me

¹ It is too much to say that ś 'still retains the old Kushan form' in the Neulpur grant (above, Vol. XV, p. 2). In most cases the right vertical of the letter distinctly projects over the horizontal top line which is certainly a late Gupta or even a post-Gupta development.

² It is, however, possible to explain away the difference between the two inscriptions by saying that the Neulpur grant is inscribed in a cursive script and therefore exhibits a more developed form, both the kings being really identical. I set no great store by this argument especially because a palaeographical comparison of the present inscription with the Dhauli cave inscription of Śāntikara (above, Vol. XIX, p. 263), most probably the son of Śubhākara of the Neulpur grant, also shows that the latter has decidedly later forms than the former. As it is impossible that the script would appreciably change in the course of a single generation, we have to separate the two inscriptions by a sufficiently long time.

³ Hindol plates, *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVI, p. 69.

⁴ The earlier rulers call themselves *Parama-saṅgata* in their inscriptions. A change of creed is for the first time noticed in the case of Queen Tribhuvanamahādēvi who was a *Parama-taiṣṇarī* (Dhenkanal plates, *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. II, p. 419) and in describing whose death the Talcher plates say: *bhējē padañ sā Harēḥ* (Misra, *loc. cit.*, p. 32). After her the rulers are *Parama-māhēśvaras*.

⁵ Expressed by a symbol.

⁶ The letter *bhā* looks like *bhau* in the impression. [Reading appears to be Śuhā° for Śubhā°.—Ed.]

⁷ Read *nāmā*.

⁸ *Visarga unnecessary*

with its ink-impressions. I am indebted to him as well as to the trustees of the Museum for kindly allowing me to edit them here for the first time. I am also grateful to Prof. V. V. Mirashi, M. A., of the Nagpur University, for revising my readings and for many valuable suggestions.

These are three copper-plates, each measuring about 9"×7". Their ends are either raised or thickened to protect the inscription. At the top of each plate, there are two holes about 3" apart, and each $\frac{3}{4}$ " in diameter, meant for securing the plates together by means of two rings of which at present there is only one left. The ends of this **ring** which is about $\frac{1}{2}$ " in thickness and $3\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter, are soldered into the socket of a seal, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter. This **seal** had some figure in relief on its countersunk surface, but nothing can be made out from what remains. The weight of the plates together with the seal and the ring is 121 *tolas*.

The plates are fairly well preserved. Some letters here and there, especially in the second plate, are damaged by verdigris and they have to be made out from the traces left and with the help of similar inscriptions.

There are fifty-four lines in all, of which fourteen are inscribed on the first plate, seventeen and fifteen on the first and second sides respectively of the second plate and the remaining eight on the third plate. The letters are beautifully formed and deeply engraved. The spacing of the words in the third plate is very much scattered.

The **characters** are of the Southern type of alphabet and regular for the period and locality in which the plates were issued. They resemble the script of the Törkhedē plates¹. The following palaeographic peculiarities may be mentioned. In the formation of the letter *pa*, a superscript resembling *ā-mātrā* appears above the proper left of the vertical, in many places, e.g., in *pratāpāḥ* (ll. 4. 8) ; *nripa* (l. 10) ; *kshamāpatih* (l. 12), etc. It is also noticed in the letter *ma* in *prati-māni* and *nāma* (l. 44) ; as also in the formation of *sha* when it occurs in a conjunct letter, e.g., in *rakshatā* (l. 10), *shashṭim varsha-* and *tishṭhati* (l. 45), and in *-ālavishv=atōyāsu* (l. 46), etc.²

In lines 51-52, in the sign-manual of the king, the characters show a variety of the Northern alphabet, about twice the average size of the letters in the grant and resemble closely those of the sign-manual in the Kāvi³ plates of Gōvindarāja.

The **language** is Sanskrit and the composition of the record is partly in verse and partly in prose. As regards **orthography**, there is very little that attracts our attention. The consonants followed by *r* are, as a rule, reduplicated. See e.g., *°surgg-ōdbhavat* (l. 23), *mārggapaṇḍita* (l. 26), etc., the exceptions being such as *nirvṛti* (l. 23), *varsha* (l. 45), etc. In such words as *ruddha* (l. 2), *samarthta* (l. 6), *mūrddhan* (l. 10), etc., the first of the resultant two aspirants is correctly changed to its corresponding sonant or surd, as required by the case, while this rule is not observed in the case of *durbhḥikṣum* (l. 22).

The **virāma** sign consists of a horizontal line over the letter instead of a serif below its vertical as in Nāgari ; cf. ll. 9, 12, 18 and 46. A pair of *laylas* is used as a mark of punctuation. Mistakes are rare and the rules of *sandhi* have been followed correctly. As regards the peculiar

¹ Above, Vol. III. p. 53.

² This feature is also noticed in *ja* in *jātak* l. 28, *ta* in *taṅga*, l. 2, etc., *tha* in *labhāta*, l. 15, *sa* in *prastāva*, l. 3, *sa* in *°m-āsu*, l. 19, etc.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. V, p. .

compound, *kunda-kusuma-śrī* (l. 18), Dr. Fleet has already drawn our attention to it while editing the Barodā¹ plates.

The plates were issued by **Gōvindarāja**, son of Indra, of the Gujarāt branch of the Rāshṭrakūṭa dynasty. He is styled *Prabhūtarsha* and is described as *Mahāsāmantādhipati*, who had won all the *Mahāśabdas*.

The **object** of the inscription is to record the grant by Gōvindarāja, of the village **Usaunaka**, in the Vāhāula Chaturaśīti on the full-moon day of Vaiśākha, which was recorded on the seventh day of the dark fortnight of the same month in the expired **Śaka year 732** (expressed in numerical figures only). This date is, therefore, recorded according to the *amānta* scheme of lunar months and corresponds to Monday, 29th April, A.D. 810².

The **donee** was the Brahmin Bhōbhika, of the Atri *gōtra*, a religious student of the Sāma veda and who is described in the plates as residing in the village Charimmanihauha after having come there from the Gauḍa country. The charter was written by Jajjulla, son of Padmanābha, who was the officer in charge of peace and war.

The early history of the Gujarāt branch of the Rāshṭrakūṭa dynasty is known to us from the following seven records: The Barodā plates³ (Śaka 734), the Nausāri plates⁴ (Śaka 738), the Anastu plates⁵ (Śaka 739), the Surat plates⁶ (Śaka 743), the Brāhmanapalli grant⁷ (Śaka 746) issued by **Karṅka** Suvarṇavarsha; the Tōrkhēḍē plates⁸ (Śaka 735) and the Kāvi plates⁹ (Śaka 749) issued by his younger brother Gōvindarāja, the donor of the present plates.

Our record being the earliest of these grants, its importance in the history of the Gujarāt Rāshṭrakūṭas is very great.

The Gujarāt branch of the Rāshṭrakūṭa dynasty was founded by Indra, when his elder brother Gōvinda III of the Imperial line of the Rāshṭrakūṭas installed him on the throne of the *Lāṭa-maṇḍala*, after his conquests in the north. This event is placed in *circa* 800 A.D. by Dr. Altekar¹⁰ and a very short rule is attributed to Indra.

¹ *Ibid.*, Vol. XII, p. 160. f.n. 15. [His remark runs : " This instance of the use of *śrī* in a *Bahuvrīhi* compound, without the *Samāsānta* affix *ka*, is somewhat unusual. But Mr. K. B. Pāthak has supplied me with an analogous instance, which is given in the *Kāvya-prakāśa*, Calcutta edition, 10th *ullāsa*, p. 422,—*Avitatha-manōratha-patha-prathanēshu praguṇa-garima-gīta-śrīḥ | surataru-sadriśaḥ sa bhavān abhilashaṇīyah kshitiśvarō na kasya . .* ". (Instead of *k-khitiśvarō*, the correct reading is *k-khitiśvara*.) In fact, such compounds are not unusual. The affix *ka* is optional, and instances where it is not employed can be multiplied. The celebrated poet Māgha shows a striking predilection for such a use, as may be evidenced by his *Śīsupālavadha*, I, 24; III, 82; IV, 68; XI, 64, 66, 67; XVI, 85. Of these, XI, 64 may be found quoted in Ballāla's *Bhōjaprabandha*, verse 279. An epigraphical instance is furnished by the Junagaḍh rock inscription of Skandagupta in the word *prīthu-śrī*, *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, p. 59, text l. 3; p. 61, text l. 24. Here, however, Dr. Fleet has not commented upon the compound.—B. C. C.]

² Pillai, *Indian Ephemeris*, Vol. II, p. 22.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 156.

⁴ *J. B. B. R. A. S.*, Vol. XX, p. 131.

⁵ *Annual Report, Archaeological Department, Baroda State* (1939), p. 22.

⁶ *Above*, Vol. XXI, p. 133.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Vol. XXII, p. 77.

⁸ *Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 53.

⁹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. V, p. 145.

¹⁰ Altekar, *Rāshṭrakūṭas and Their Times*, p. 79.

Indra was succeeded by his eldest son Karkka Suvarṇavarsha. It appears that he ruled jointly with his younger brother Gōvindarāja or at least deputed him to govern some parts of Gujarāt. The position of Gōvindarāja, in this respect, has always been a vexed question.

On account of the difficulty of two rulers granting villages in the same territory, it was formerly conjectured that some sort of enmity existed between the two brothers and probably Gōvindarāja came to the throne as a usurper¹. The praise of Karkka Suvarṇavarsha in our plates, as well as in other grants of Gōvindarāja, establishes the harmony between the two brothers. Dr. Altekar² thinks that Gōvindarāja may have been a " princely regent " appointed by Karkka, but the view that he was entrusted with the administration of Gujarāt in the absence of Karkka during the hostilities regarding the installation of Amōghavarsha I on his throne, or during his minority, is now hardly tenable from the early date of our record. That Gōvinda III was still living when our plates were issued, is indicated by the dates of an unpublished plate³ (Śaka 733), the Lōhārā⁴ grant (Śaka 734) and the suspected to be spurious Kaḍaba plates⁵ (Śaka 735). According to Prof. Mirashi⁶, Amōghavarsha I was a fairly grown up boy of sixteen, when he came to the throne in circa Śaka 736. The reason why Karkka wanted to rule in company with Gōvindarāja should, therefore, be sought somewhere else than in his absence from Gujarāt to help Amōghavarsha I. It is also noteworthy to see that Karkka does not think of his own son Rājaputra Dantivarmā as the probable candidate for the governorship of Gujarāt, who appears as the *dātaki* in his Baroda plates⁷ issued only two years after the date of our record. We have to take it, therefore, that both the brothers were ruling jointly or at least either of them had the full authority to make donation of lands without each other's consent.

Unfortunately, our plates do not throw any additional light on the history of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. Many verses of these plates have occurred in various Rāṣṭrakūṭa records. Six of them, viz., (2, 7, 8, 11, 13 and 14) and (2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11) are repeated in the Tōrkhēdē⁸ and Kāvī plates⁹ of Gōvindarāja respectively, but most of them can be read together in the Kāpaḷvaṇaj plate¹⁰ of Kṛṣṇa II, where they follow the same order as is found in our plates. The only new verse occurring in this grant (v. 15) describes Gōvindarāja in the usual panegyric terms and is not important historically.

As regards the **geographical names** occurring in the grant, **Vāhāula**, which was the headquarters of the division consisting of eighty-four villages including the donated village, may be identified with Vāhorā, a village about 4 miles south-east of Bhilodia, the find-spot of the plates, in the Baroda State. The village **Charmanīhauha**, where the donee was residing, is probably identical with Chāmarwārā, about midway between Bhilodia and Vāhorā, and the donated village **Usaṇṇaka** with Wāsaṇ, about 2 miles north-east of Chāmarwārā. Both Chāmarwārā and Wāsaṇ are on the right bank of the Hiraṇ river which is a tributary of the Orsang.¹¹ The **Gauḍa** country from where the donee came is obviously the eastern part of Bengal.

¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 180; *ibid.*, Vol. XIV, p. 197.

² Above, Vol. XXII, p. 68.

³ Noticed by Diskalkar, *J. B. B. R. A. S. (N. S.)*, III, p. 187.

⁴ Above, Vol. XXIII, p. 212.

⁵ Above, Vol. IV, p. 332.

⁶ Above, Vol. XXIII, p. 217.

⁷ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 156.

⁸ Above, Vol. III, p. 53.

⁹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. V, p. 145.

¹⁰ Above, Vol. I, p. 53.

¹¹ I am obliged to Prof. Mirashi for the identification of Charmanīhauha and Usaṇṇaka.

TEXT¹

[Metres :—Vv. 1, 7, 13, 16, 18, 20 and 21 *Anushtubh* ; vv. 2 and 4 *Āryā* ; vv. 3 and 19 *Upajāti* ; vv. 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 15 *Vasantatilakā* ; vv. 8 and 17 *Indravajrā* ; v. 12 *Śārdūlavikrīḍita* ; v. 14 *Varṣasastha* ; v. 22 *Śālīnī*.]

First Plate

- 1 श्री² आसीन्मुरारिसंकाशः कृष्णराजः श्रितेः पतिः । [अग्रमेयवसोर्द्वाता]³ साक्षाद्वर्ध-
- 2 इवापरः ॥[१॥*] शुभतुङ्गतुङ्गतुरगप्रवृत्तरेणूर्द्ध्वरविकिरणं(णम्) [१*] श्रीशेषि न-
- 3 भो निखिलं प्रावृद्धालायते स्पष्टं(ष्टम्) ॥[२॥*] तस्यात्मजः श्रीधुराजनामा महा-
नुभावो-
- 4 प्रहृतप्रतापः ॥(१) प्रसाधिताशेषनरेन्द्रचक्रः क्रमेण बालार्कवपुर्व्व(र्व्वं)[भूव] ॥[३॥*]
- 5 शशधरकरनिकरनिभं यस्य यशः सुरनगाग्रसानुस्रैः [१*] परिगीय[ते समन्ता]-
- 6 दिव्याधरसुन्दरीनिवहैः ॥[४॥*] तस्याप्यभूद्भुवनभारभृतेः समर्थः पा-
- 7 र्थोपमः पृथुमानगुणो गुणज्ञः [१*] दुर्व्वारवैरिवनितातुलतापञ्चेतु-
- 8 र्गोविन्दराज इति सूरिनप्रतापः ॥[५॥*] यस्य प्रभोश्चतुरचारु⁴[दार]-
- 9 कीर्तनरासेदिवाक्षिरूपमस्य पितुः सकाशात् ॥(१) सत्स्वप्यनेकतनये-
- 10 षु गुणातिरेकान्मूर्द्धाभिषिक्तनृपसम्मतमाशु राज्यं(णम्) ॥[६॥*] रक्षता ये-
- 11 न निःशेषं चतुरश्रोधिसंयुतं(तम्) ॥(१) राज्यं धर्म्येण लोकानां कृता तुष्टिः प-
- 12 रा हृदि ॥[७॥*] भ्राता तु तस्येन्द्रसमानवीर्य्यः श्रीमान् भुवि क्षापतिरिन्द्र-
- 13 राजः [१*] शास्ता बभूवाद्भुतकीर्त्तिस्तुतिस्तद्वत्तलाटेश्वरमण्डलस्य ॥[८॥*] य-
- 14 स्वाङ्गमात्रजयिनः प्रियसाहसस्य क्षापालवेष-

Second Plate ; First Side

- 15 फलमेव बभूव सैन्यं ॥(१) मुक्ता(क्ता) च सर्व्वभुवने-
- 16 श्वरमादिदेवं नावन्य(न्द)तान्यममरेष्वपि यो मन-

¹ From original plates and impressions.

² Expressed by a symbol.

³ Restored from Kāpaḍvaṇaj plates of Krishna II ; above, Vol. I, p. 52.

⁴ Read *chārur-ādāra-*.

- 17 स्त्री ॥८॥*] अद्यापि यस्य सुरकिन्नर[सिद्ध]सी(सा)ध्यविद्याधराधिपतयो गु-
 18 णपक्षपातात् ॥(1) मायन्ति कुन्दकुसुमञ्चि¹ यशो यथा स्वधामस्थिताः
 19 सहचरीकुचदत्तहस्ताः ॥[१०॥*] सनुर्व्वभूव खलु तस्य महानुभावः
 20 शास्त्रार्थबोधमुखलालितचित्तवृत्तिः [1*] यो गौणनामपरिवारमु-
 21 वाह पूर्वं श्रीकर्कराजसुभगव्यपदेशमुच्चैः ॥[११॥] राज्ये यस्य न तस्कार-
 22 स्य वसतिर्व्याधेः प्रसूतिर्मृता दुर्भिर्भ(र्भि)चं न च विभ्रमस्य महिमा नैवो-
 23 पसर्गोद्भवः [1*] क्षीणः शत्रुगणः प्रतापविनता(तो)शेषारिवर्गस्तथा नो
 24 वि[ह]त्परिपन्थिनी प्रभवती(ति) क्रूरा खलानां मतिः ॥[१२॥*] ऋष्योनुजस्तस्य
 सेवि-
 25 तः सततं बुधैः [1*] [गो]विन्दराजो भूपालः साक्षाच्छंभुरिवापरः ॥[१३॥*]
 फलोन्मुखैरापतितैर्विदूरतः
 26 समं समन्ताद्गुणपक्षपातिभिः [1*] महाहवे दानविधौ च मार्गणैर्ब कु[ण्ड]तं [यस्य
 स]दैव
 27 मानसं ॥[१४॥*] अन्तःस्थितेश्वरशिरोधृतशुभ्रचन्द्र—²नसुभारसविभावित[सर्व्वमूर्तिः?]
 [1*] लो-
 28 कस्य निर्हतिकरः सृष्टणीयजन्मा जातः सदानृतमयत्वगुणेन यस्य ॥[१५॥*] [स
 परमेश्व-³]
 29 रः समधिगताशेषमहाशब्दमहासामन्ताधिपत(ति)प्रभूतवर्षश्रीगोवि[न्दराजदेवः सर्वा]-
 30 नेव भाविभूमिपालान्समनुबोधयत्यस्तु वः संविदितं । यथा मया माता[पित्रोरात्मन-]
 31 च मुख्यशोभिष्वये ॥ ऐहिकामुष्मिकफलावाभ्यर्थं चर्म्मनिहौ[ह?]याम[वास्तव्य]-

Second Plate : Second Side

- 32 गौडदेशादायाताचेयसगीचच्छन्दीगसन्नचरि[ब्रा]ह्मणभोभिकाय [भट्टजयपुत्रा⁴]-

¹ See above, p. 250, n. 1.

² One *akshara* is illegible here, of which the subscript *yya* is seen on the plate. [I would read *śchyūtāt-sudhā-rasa*.—B. C. C.]

³ Only faint traces of the words in the brackets can be seen on the plates. [The portion possibly reads *as cha Lājēva*.—B. C. C.]

⁴ Only faint traces of these words are seen on the plates.

- 33 य बलिचरुवैश्या(श्व)देवाग्निहोत्रा(च)कृतक्रियाद्युस(त्स)र्पणार्थं वाहाउलचतुरशो[त्यन्तर्गत
— — —]¹
- 34 उसौणकग्रामः सहिरण्यादानः समोगभागः सदण्डदशापराधः स(स्व)[सीमापर्यन्तः]
- 35 समस्तराजकीयानामहस्तप्रक्षेपणीयो भूमिच्छिद्रन्यायेनाय महावैशा[ख्यामुदका-]
- 36 तिसर्गेण प्रतिपादितो यतोस्य भुञ्जती न कैश्चिद्वासेधे प्रवर्त्तितव्यं(व्यम्) ॥ आगामि-
[भद्रन्]-
- 37 [प]तिभिरप्यनित्यान्वैश्वर्यास्थस्थिरं मानुष्यं सामान्यञ्च भूमिदानफलं तदप्रहरेण पा-
- 38 पञ्चावगच्छद्भिरयमस्मदायोनुमत्त(न्त)व्यः परिपालयितव्यञ्च [।*] तथाचोक्तं पुराणमहर्षि]-
- 39 [भिः ॥ व]ड्भिर्वसु[धा] भुक्ता राजभिः सगरादिभिर्घस्य² यस्य यदा भूमिस्तस्य
तस्य
- 40 [तदा] फलं(लम्) ॥[१६॥*] उक्तञ्च भगवता वेदव्यासेन व्यासेन ॥ अग्नेरपत्यं
प्रथमं सुवर्णं
- 41 भूर्वैष्णवीसूर्यसुताश्च गावः [।*] लोकास्तयस्तेन भवन्ति दत्ता यः काञ्चनं गा-
- 42 च महोच्च दद्यात् ॥[१७॥*] सर्वेषामेव दानानामेकजन्मानुगं फलं(लम्) ॥(।)
ह्राठ(ट)कचित्ति-
- 43 गौरीणां सप्तजन्मानुशं(गं) फलं(लम्) ॥[१८॥*] यानीह दत्तानि पुरा नरेन्द्रेष्टं(ष्टं)नानि
धर्मायत-
- 44 नोक्तानिः(नि ।) निर्मात्यवान्तप्रतिमानि तानि को नाम साधुः पुनरा[ददी]-
- 45 त ॥[१९॥*] षष्टिं वर्षसहस्राणि स्वर्गे तिष्ठति भूमिदः ॥(।) आच्छेत्ता [चानु-]
- 46 मन्ता च तान्येव नरके वसेत् ॥[२०॥*] विन्ध्याटवीष्वतोयासु शु[ष्क-]

Third Plate

- 47 कोटरवासिनः [।*] कृष्णाहयोभिजायन्ते³
- 48 भूमिदायापहारिणः ॥[२१॥*] उक्तञ्च भगवता रामभ-

¹ Probably two aksharas preceded the word *Usaṇaka*. [The original seems to read बृहदहोयक°.—C. R. K.]

² Read सगरादिभिः । यस्य यस्य-

³ After this the scribe wrote the word *यः* but subsequently cancelled it.

- 49 द्रेण ॥ सर्वानितान्भाविनः पार्थिवेन्द्रान् भूयो भूयो याचते
 50 रामभद्रः [१*] सामान्योयं धर्ममेतुर्नृपाणां काले काले पालनौ-
 51 यो भवद्भिः ॥[२२*] स्वहस्तोयं श्रीगोविन्दराजस्य श्रीमदि-
 52 न्द्रराजदेवपुत्रस्य ॥¹ लिखितचैतन्याया शासनं
 53 [म]हासाधिविषहिकशोपज्ञनाभसुतजज्जुत्तेनेति ॥ शकनृपका-
 54 [ला]तीतसंव² ७३२ वैशाख³ व⁴हुल ७

TRANSLATION

(Lines 28-36.) And now the king *Śrī Gōvindarāja* *alias* **Prabhūtavarsha** the *Paramēśvara*, the overlord of the feudatory kings, who has acquired (*the right to the use of*) all the (*five*) musical instruments, commands all the future kings :

“ Be it known to you (*all*) that, for the enhancement of the religious merit and renown of Our parents and Ourselves, in this world and the next, the village **Usaṇṇaka** situated in the *Vāhāṇa* (*sub-division of*) eighty-four (*villages*), has been granted (*by Us*) with libation of water, on the *Mahā-Vaiśākhi* day, for the performance of the rites such as *Bali*, *Charu*, *Vaiśvadēva*, *Agnihōtra*, *Krata*, etc., to the Brahmin *Bhōbhika*, son of *Bhaṭṭa* *Jaya*, of the *Atri gōtra*, a religious student of *Sāma-vēda*, residing in the village *Charmmanihauha*, an immigrant from the *Gauḍa* country, with all the assessments and the (*proceeds of the punishments for*) faults and ten offences, limited by the boundaries (*of this village*), without any interference from the royal officers, according to the customs of the cultivable and uncultivable lands (*bhūmi-chchhidra-nyāyēna*), in which, while being enjoyed, nobody should cause any hindrance.”

(Lines 51-54.) This is the sign-manual of the illustrious **Gōvindarāja** himself, son of the illustrious *Indrarājadēva*. This charter has been written by me, *Jajjulla*, son of *Padmanābha*, the officer in charge of war and treaties.

(*Dated this*) the seventh (*day*) of the dark half of (*the month of*) **Vaiśākha** when **seven hundred and thirty two years** had elapsed since the time of the **Śaka king**.

No. 35.—RATANPUR STONE INSCRIPTION OF THE REIGN OF PRITHVIDEVA II;
 THE [KALACHURI] YEAR 915

By PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M. A., NAGPUR

This inscription was brought to notice as early as 1825 by Sir (then Mr.) Richard Jenkins who published a short account⁴ of it in the *Asiatic Researches*, Vol. XV, pp. 504-5. It has since

¹ An ornamental device precedes the *dandas*.

² There is a sign after *va*, which cannot be taken for that of *t*. Read संवत्.

³ There is a blank space for one *akṣara* after ख.

⁴ Jenkins' account of this record was based on the report of his assistant *Sāstri Vinayakrao Anandrao Aurangabadkar* who examined this and some other records at *Sirpur*, *Raipur* and *Ratanpur*. The manuscript of his report written in the *Mōḍī* characters is still preserved in the *India Office Library*, London. An autograph copy of it was kindly supplied to me by the Librarian, *Dr. H. N. Randle*. As shown below, the report is incorrect in several places.

been referred to twice in this journal¹ by Dr. Kielhorn and has also been briefly noticed by Rai Bahadur Hiralal in his *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*.² It is edited here for the first time from the original stone which is now preserved in the Central Museum, Nagpur.

According to a manuscript history of Ratanpur, the stone bearing this inscription was discovered within the Bādal Mahāl³ of the fort at Ratanpur, 16 miles north of Bilāspur in the Bilāspur District of the Central Provinces. More than 75 years ago one Reva Ram Kāyastha of Ratanpur prepared a transcript of the inscription for the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, which is now included in the aforementioned MS. history of Ratanpur.⁴ The stone was then apparently in a state of good preservation, for Reva Ram's transcript has no lacunæ. It has since then suffered in a most deplorable manner especially in the middle of lines 5-35 where from 3 to 39 *aksharas* have been lost in each line. Lines 13 and 14 have been completely effaced except for a few *aksharas* at one end. In the extant portion also, several letters here and there have become partly or wholly illegible. Unfortunately Reva Ram's transcript affords little aid in such places, as it is full of inaccuracies, judging from the extant portions of the record.⁵ A patient examination of the original has enabled me to prepare the subjoined transcript from which it is possible to form a general idea of the whole record.

The inscribed portion measures 2' 9½" broad and 1' 9½" high and contains 36 lines. The characters are Nāgarī. The medial diphthongs are shown by *prishṭha-mātrās*; *i* is still without a dot, see, e.g., *bhrīṅga-*, l. 2; the rare *jh* occurs in *jhāmkritaiḥ*, l. 24 and *jhāmkāra*, l. 27; the upper loop of *th* is not open, see *pratyarthi-prithvīpatau*, l. 20; in its subscript form the letter is still laid on its side, see *pāntha-*, l. 24; finally, *dh* has not yet developed a horn on the left, see *dhārādharṣṇa*, l. 2. The language is Sanskrit. Except for *Oṃ namaḥ Śivāya* in the beginning and the date at the end, the whole record is metrically composed. It contains 45 verses, all of which seem to have been numbered. The orthography does not call for any notice except that the consonant following *r* is generally reduplicated and *v* is throughout used for *b*.

¹ Above, Vol. I, p. 33 and Vol. V, Appendix, p. 60, n. 1.

² Second ed., pp. 127 ff. This is also probably the inscription mentioned by Cunningham's assistant, Beglar, in *A. S. I. R.*, Vol. VII, p. 215, though he says that it is dated A. 979; for his description of it fits the present record. 'The centre of the slab which is a large one', says he, 'is worn quite smooth; it opens with an invocation to Śiva.'

³ Jenkins also says that the stone was 'within the fort of Ratanpur, near the Bādal Mahāl' (*Asiatic Researches*, Vol. XV, p. 505). Beglar, however, was told by some people at Bilāspur that the slab originally came from Dhangāon (i.e., Dhanpur, now a village in the Pendra Zam indāri in the Bilāspur District, which contains several ruins). If the object of the inscription was to record the gift of a village in honour of Śiva under the name Sōmanātha, installed at Kumārākōṭa (see vv. 36-39), the inscription may have been originally put up at that place and later on removed to Ratanpur.

⁴ *Drug District Gazetteer* (1909), p. 47. This is referred to below as the Ratanpur MS.

⁵ Jenkins' account of the contents of this inscription which was based on the report of Aurangabadkar is equally incorrect; for according to him the present inscription contains a list of nine Rājās in the order of succession from father to son, including the one by whose order the inscription was engraved. Aurangabadkar's MS. mentions five of these, viz., Prithvīpāla, Brahmadēva, Rudradēva, Prithvidēva and Sridēva. The extant portion shows the names of Prithvīpāla, Brahmadēva and Prithvidēva only. The other names seem to be due to mislection, for they do not occur in the manuscript history of Ratanpur also. Further, Jenkins speaks of Prithvidēva as a fortunate king who in his old age resigned his kingdom called Kōsaladēśa to his son. This is evidently an incorrect interpretation of verse 21 of the present inscription. What the verse really means is that Prithvidēva, who is identical with the Kalachuri king Prithvidēva II of Ratanpur, called Brahmadēva to his capital and entrusting the government of his kingdom to him, led a life free from care.

The inscription is one of **Brahmadēva**, a feudatory prince of **Prithvidēva II** of the Kalachuri dynasty of Ratanpur. The object of it is to record the religious and charitable works of Brahmadēva at several places. It is dated in **Sarivāt 915** (expressed in decimal figures only) of an unspecified era. This date must of course be referred to the **Kalachuri era**. The year, if expired, would correspond to A.D. 1163-64. This is the last known date for Prithvidēva II, for the next certain Kalachuri date¹ 919 belongs to the reign of his successor Jājalladēva II.

The inscription opens with the customary obeisance to Śiva, which is followed by three verses invoking the blessings of the deity. The next verse describes Śēsha, the lord of serpents. Verses 5-8 eulogise the Talahāri-*maṇḍala* which is called an ornament of the earth. Then begins a description of the family of Brahmadēva who put up the present record. His father Prithvipāla is eulogised in verses 9 and 10 as a very valiant and famous personage. His son Brahmadēva was the foremost of the feudatories (*māṇḍalik-āgrāṇī*), evidently, of the Kalachuri king of Ratanpur (v. 11). The next nine verses (12-20) describe his valour, handsome form, learning and charity. The only point of historical interest mentioned in the extant portion is that he obtained a victory on Jaṭēśvara who is evidently identical with the homonymous son of Anantavarman-Chōḍagaṅga. We are next told that Prithvidēva, the lord of Kōsala, called him from the Talahāri-*maṇḍala* and entrusting the government of his country to him obtained peace of mind (v. 21). This Prithvidēva is evidently the second prince of that name in the Kalachuri dynasty of Ratanpur.

The next eighteen verses (22-39) describe the benefactions of Brahmadēva. He constructed a temple of Dhūrjaṭi (Śiva) at Mallāla and excavated a tank evidently at the same place. The religious merit of the former he assigned to his lord Prithvidēva. Besides these, he built ten shrines of Tryambaka (Śiva) and dug two lotus-ponds at some place the name of which is lost. At Varēlāpura he constructed a grand temple of Śrīkaṇṭha and at Ratnapura he built nine shrines of Pārvatī. At the latter place he excavated also a large step-well and two tanks, one on the north and the other on the south of the city. Several other religious and charitable works of Brahmadēva are next mentioned, viz., a tank at the village Gōṭhālī, a temple of Dhūrjaṭi at Nārāyaṇapura, tanks at Bamhaṇī, Charauya and Tējallapura, a temple of Śiva at Kumārākōṭa and a mango-grove as well as a charitable feeding-house evidently at the same place. Verse 39 records that he donated the village Lōṇākara to the god Sōmanātha who is probably identical with the deity installed in the temple at Kumārākōṭa.

The next two verses (40-41) are devoted to the description of Anantapāla of the Gauḍa lineage, who was a keeper of records, and his son Tribhuvanapāla who composed the present *praśasti*. Then are mentioned the scribe Kumārāpāla² and the engravers Dhanapati and Īśvara (vv. 43-44). The *praśasti* closes with a verse expressing the hope that the *kīrtti* (evidently the temple of Sōmanātha at which the present *praśasti* was originally put up) may last for ever.

Brahmadēva, the chief of the Talahāri-*maṇḍala* was at first a feudatory of the Kalachuri king Prithvidēva II. He seems to have taken a leading part in the defeat of Jaṭēśvara *alias*

¹ Hiralal read the date of the Amōḍā plates of Jājalladēva II (above, Vol. XIX, pp. 209 ff.) as 912. But his reading of the third figure of it is probably incorrect in view of the date of the present inscription which belongs to the reign of his father Prithvidēva II.

² Kumārāpāla belonged to the race of Sahasrārjuna from whom the Kalachuris also traced their descent. He is mentioned as the scribe in some other records also, viz., in the Ratanpur stone inscription of Prithvidēva II, dated V. 1207, (above, Vol. I, pp. 45 ff.) and Mallār stone inscription of Jājalladēva II, dated K. 919 (*ibid.*, Vol. I, pp. 39 ff.), etc. He had also considerable poetic talent; for he composed the Sheorinārāyaṇ stone inscription of the reign of Jājalladēva II, dated K. 919 (Bhan-larkar's *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, No. 122; and the Kharod stone inscription of Ratnadēva III, dated K. 933 (above, Vol. XXI, pp. 159 ff.).

Kāmārṇava, the son of Anantavarman-Chōḍagaṅga. We know from several records¹ that Chōḍagaṅga invaded the Kalachuri kingdom and suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Ratnadēva II, the father of Prithvidēva II. But that Jaṭeśvara also attempted a similar invasion which met with the same fate is not so well known. The defeat of Jaṭeśvara is mentioned in one other record only, viz., in the Kharod stone inscription² of Ratnadēva III. Unfortunately the verse in that record which describes this event is partly mutilated, but my personal examination of the record *in situ* has yielded the further detail³ that Jaṭeśvara was made captive by Prithvidēva II. Verse 17 of the present record which describes Brahmādēva as well known for imprisoning a mighty foe may refer to the same event. Brahmādēva afterwards became Prithvidēva's trusted minister and was entrusted with the government of the whole kingdom.

As for the localities mentioned in the present inscription, **Mallāla** is evidently modern Mallār, 16 miles south-east of Bilāspur. **Varēlāpura** or Barēlāpura is Barēla, 10 miles south of Ratanpur. **Nārāyaṇapura** and **Bamhaṇī** still retain their old names; the former is situated on the Mahānadi in the Raipur District, while the latter is 4 miles north by east of Akaltarā. Rai Bahadur Hiralal identified **Kumarākōṭa** with Koṭgaḍh⁴, but from some other records⁵ the old name of the latter appears to have been Vikarṇapura. Gōṭhālī, Charauya and Tējallapura cannot now be traced, but the last of these may have been situated not very far from Sheorinārāyaṇ, for it seems to have been founded by Tējalladēva, a Kalachuri prince of a collateral branch, who is mentioned in an inscription at Sheorinārāyaṇ⁶. Finally, **Talahāri-maṇḍala** is probably identical with the ancient **Taraḍaṁśaka-bhōga** mentioned in the Mallār plates of Mahā-Śivagupta.⁷ It is highly glorified in the present inscription probably because Mallār and other places where Brahmādēva constructed his religious and charitable works were included in it. It seems thus to have comprised the southern portions of the Bilāspur and Jānjir *tahsils* and the northern portion of the Raipur District.

TEXT⁸

[Metres : Vv. 1, 4-6, 11-17, 19, 21, 22, 28, 31, 37, 38, 40 and 45, *Śārdūlavikrīḍita* ; vv. 2, 3, 9 and 20 *Sragdharā* ; vv. 7 and 26 *Mālinī* ; vv. 8, 10, 18, 24, 29 and 43 *Vasantatilakā* ; v. 23 *Mandākrāntā* ; vv. 25, 27, 32-36 and 39 *Anuṣṭubh* ; v. 30 *Gīti* ; vv. 41, 42 and 44 *Āryā*.]

1 [सिद्धिः⁹] श्री नमः शिवाय ॥ यश्चामी[करकु*]भसन्निभकुचहंस्य रत्युक्त्वक्रोडानेहसि
शैलराजदुहितुर्वक्त्रारविन्दस्य च । निःप(निष्प)र्यायदिदृक्चयैव भगवाम्भते स
नेत्रत्रयं स श्रेयांसि समातनोतु भवतामर्हेन्दुचूडा-

¹ See, e.g., above, Vol. I, p. 40 and p. 47 ; Vol. XXI, p. 163 and Vol. XXIII, p. 4.

² Above, Vol. XXI, p. 163.

³ I read the last quarter of verse 9 of this record as *kārāgāra-nirāsi-va(ba)ndishu* — — — *dharām(?) prā-pitak*.

⁴ See his *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar* (second ed.), p. 127. The name of the place is not Kōṭapattana as stated by Hiralal, but Kumarākōṭapattana.

⁵ A stone inscription which was originally found at Koṭgaḍh and is now at Akaltarā (Bhandarkar's *List*, No. 1585) records the construction of a tank and a temple of Rēvanta by Vallabharāja, another feudatory of Ratnadēva II and Prithvidēva II. Another stone inscription of the same feudatory found at Ratanpur, while enumerating the benefactions of Vallabharāja, mentions the same tank and temple of Rēvanta as situated at Vikarṇapura. This shows that Vikarṇapura was the ancient name of Koṭgaḍh. Is Kumarākōṭa identical with Dhangaon ? See above, p. 256, n. 3.

⁶ Bhandarkar's *List*, No. 1242.

⁷ Above, Vol. XXXIII, p. 120.

⁸ From the original stone in the Central Museum, Nagpur, and inked stampages.

⁹ Expressed by a symbol.

- 16 चरे स[ङ्ग]रि । येनाक्रम्य ज[टेश्व]रो¹ रिपुनृप[ः] [क्रू]र ७ — — ७ — — —
 — ७ ७ — ७ — ७ ७ — — — ७ — — ७ — ॥[१६॥*] —
 — — ७ ७ — ७ — ७ [रितमः]स्तोमे सहस्रद्युतिः प्रद्युम्नः प्रमदाजने
 [सु]रगुरुः सम्यगिरां निर्यये ॥(1)
- 17 विख्या[तो व(व)]लिवैरिव(व)धनविधौ कृष्णो न कृष्णद्युतिः — — — ७ ७ —
 ७ — ७ ७ ७ — — — ७ — — ७ —² ॥[१७॥*] — — ७ — ७
 ७ ७ — ७ — ७ दधानः स[त्त्व]प्रियो घनरसप्रकराभिरामः । लब्धो(ब्धो)न्नतिः
 प्रभुतयाऽखिलवाहि-
- 18 नीनां रत्नाकरोयमपि नाश्रयदो जडानाम् ॥१८॥ ये लीला ७ ७ — ७ — ७
 ७ ७ — — — ७ — — — ७ — — — ७ ७ — ७ — ७ ७ ७ —
 — — ७ — — ७ — । ये रामोदतसेतुवं(वं)धरुचिरा यस्य प्रचितःपुरी-
 नारोनाभनिपीतसिन्धुपय-
- 19 सः कीर्त्या धरान्ताः श्रिताः ॥१९॥ यद्रूपालोकनोत्कागत[वरललनावक्रपंकेरुहाण]³
 — — — — ७ — — [द्रविणवितरणे याचकानां निकाये । भिक्षा]दानाय
 चास्मद्भवनमयमितीवामरौघैः प्रणुतो रक्षायै हाट-
- 20 काद्रेस्तटभुवमनिशं भास्करो वं(वं)भ्रमीति ॥२०॥ आनीति तलहारिमण्डलवराच्छी-
 कोशल[स्वा][मिना*] [पृथ्वी]देव'नरेश्वरेण परमप्रेम्णा गुणानां निधौ । हस्तन्यस्त-
 कृपाणपा[त]निहतप्रत्यर्थिपृथ्वीपती यस्मिन् राज्यधुरं
- 21 समर्थ परमा लब्धा(ब्धा) मनोनिर्वृतिः ॥२१॥ वाता[न्दोलित]—[ज?]रां स(श)तदलप्रा-
 लियवि(विं)द्रुपमां लक्ष्मीं — ७ ७ — ७ — विलसितप्रायाञ्चनावस्थितिम् ।
 [खद्योतोन्मि]षितानुकारमवनीच[क्रे] नृणां यौव[नं] — —⁵ [पा]र्जितभूरिभूति-
- 22 रभजद्यो धर्ममेवादृतः ॥२२॥ कुर्वाणाभिर्जग ७ ७ ७ — — ७ समाश्वसते[ः]
 खेदस्वेदं पवनविचलद्वैजयन्तोभिराभिः । तेनो — —⁶ प्रचुरकुमुदामोदिदिक्र-
 वाले मल्लालेस्मिन् लवलधवलं धूर्जटे[र्हा]म चक्रे ॥२३॥ उ-

¹ This historically important name is missing in the Ratanpur MS. which reads instead *yudh-āśvad* (?) *ripu-nripa* ! Aurangabadkar's account also makes no mention of this king vanquished by Brahmādēva.

² The Ratanpur MS. reads the last *pāda* of this verse as *īyāmā yasya cha karnikā kharatarā sūtē yasō nirmā-lam*. This may be adopted, but *karnika*, in the sense of an arrow, is neuter. Perhaps *īyāmā yasya kripānikā* is the correct reading.

³ The *aksharas* in the bracket are supplied from the Ratanpur MS. They have left faint traces on the slab.

⁴ This royal name is missing in the Ratanpur MS. It is fairly clear on the original stone.

⁵ Restore *śauryō*.

⁶ Restore *tphulla*.

- 23 त्फुल्लपङ्कजकदम्ब(म्ब)विराजमानं पौराङ्गनास्तनतटीदलितोर्ध्वमालम् । — —¹ सरो-
वरमकारि उ — उ नीरखेलम्भरालकुलसङ्कुलितं [समन्तात्] ॥२४॥ प्रासाद-
स्या[स्य] च[न्द्रां]शुकुन्दसुन्दरोचिषः । पृथ्वीदेवनरेन्द्राय पुष्पं
- 24 पुण्यात्मने ददौ ॥२५॥ दश भवनवराणि चम्ब(म्ब)क[स्ये]दुरोचिर्विकचकुमुदकुन्दस्फा-
टिकाद्रि उ — —² । [अरचयदलधूनि प्रौढदोर्दण्डलीला] उ उ उ उ उ
उ — — — उ — — उ — — ॥२६॥ अत्रैव [पयसि] — उ उ उ
[सु*]स्वरक्षां कृतैः । पान्यश्रुतिप-
- 25 याज्ञादि चारु पुष्करिणीद्वयम् ॥२७॥ तेनोदारमकारि तत्र पवनोद्देह्यताकाकुलं
श्रीकण्ठस्य [सुधांशुधामधवलं] श्रीमद्वरेलापुरे । यत्रावासमवाप्य चाप्यतितरां
तत्याज देवस्त्रिप्रा — — उ उ मंवि(वि)कापरिवृढः कैलासवाससृष्टहाम् ॥२८॥
- 26 प्रालेयशैलदुहितुः कुमुदेन्दुकुन्दनीहारहारलवलीधवलानि तेन । सर्वोत्तमानि [पवनप्रच-
लत्पताकान्यम्बलि]हानि नव रत्नपुरे कृतानि ॥२९॥ क्रीडांनगर]पुरन्ध्रीपीनस्तन-
जनितवीचि[विचो]भाम् । विपुलतरामिह वापीक्ष[का]र रुचिरां
- 27 विचित्रसोपानाम् ॥३०॥ व्याकोचांबु(बु)जपुञ्जगुञ्जदलिनोद्गंकारवाचालितं खेलझूरिमराल-
संकुलतटं तेनोत्तरस्यां दिशि । श्रीमद्रत्नपुरस्य दक्षिणदिशि प्रोद्दामकामाङ्गना
— — — उ उ — उ — उ³ रुचिरं चक्रे तडागद्वयम् ॥३१॥
गोठाली'ना-
- 28 म[नि] ग्रामे च[का]र सरसीं शुभाम् । अनिमेषदृशां वृन्दैर्द्विमध्यासितामिव ॥३२॥
सुधांशुधवलं [तत्र धूर्जटेर्धाम] निर्मितम् । नारायणपुरे तेन पताकोल्लिखिता-
म्ब(म्ब)रम् ॥३३॥ अकारि [सरसी] — उ उ उ उ उ विराजिता । भार-
तीव कथा तेन व(व)म्हणीग्राम-
- 29 स[न्निधौ] ॥३४॥ चरौयनान्नि विस्तीर्णं ग्रामे रम्यं सरोवरं(रम्) । चकार तेजल-
पुरे उ उ उ उ उ⁵ राजितम् ॥३५॥ निर्मितं मन्दिरं रम्यं कुमराकोट-
पत्तने । तेनैवान्यं⁶ यशोराशि[प्रकाशं पार्वती]पतेः ॥३६॥ तेनैवाभ्युवणं⁷ कृतं
घनत-

¹ Restore *ramyam*.

² Restore *prabhāni*.

³ The missing *aksharas* can be restored with the help of the Ratanpur MS. as *snāna-praskhalit-āmbaram cha*.

⁴ Aurangabadkar read this place-name as *Gōḍālī* and the Ratanpur MS. as *Gōḍhālī*. The *aksharas* are clearly as read above.

⁵ The Ratanpur MS. reads *Śiva-dhāma-virājita* which may be correct.

⁶ Read *tēnānī-ānvad*.

⁷ Read *āmbra-vanam*.

- 30 रच्छायानिरस्ता[तपं] पाणिप्राप्यफलोत्तरैर्भधुरसैः पान्यव्रजं प्रीणयत् । कूज[त्कोकिल]-
काकलीव्यतिकरप्रारभ्यमान[स्म]रप्रौढाज्ञाविदलन्मनस्त्रितरुणीमानग्रहग्रन्थिकम् ॥३७॥
आकण्ठं विविधान्नपाननिवहैर्भुक्ता मनोवा-
- 31 [ञ्चि]ते राशी — ॐ — ॐ यस्य सततं सचे(त्ते) महासच्चि(त्ति)णः । इयं
कार्पटिकव्रजेन रभसा — — [भव]त्सारितो दिक्कक्रं मुखरोकराति व(व)हलः
कोलाहलः प्रत्यहम् ॥३८॥ देवाय सोमनाथाय ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ [पु*]खवान् ।
असौ लोणाक[र] — —¹ स-
- 32 र्वादायैः स — ॐ ॐ² ॥३९॥ निर्व्यूढः कविपङ्क्तौ धुरि सतां व(व)वास्पदः
सन्ततं — — —³ धिगमप्रसादितमतिः सा — ॐ⁴ वादे सुधीः । आसीद्वि-
स्तृतकीर्त्तिरक्षपटलप्राप्तप्रतिष्ठः श्रि[यां] लीलागार ॐ — ॐ⁵ पालविबु(वु)धा
गौडान्वा-
- 33 योद्धवः ॥४०॥ विधुरिव दुग्धपयोधेः प्रसाधिताशः कलानिधित्रितराम् । अभव[त्रिभु-
वनपालः] पालितमकलद्विजस्तनुजः ॥४१॥ घनरसवतीं गभीरां स्वच्छतरां कवि-
विचाररमणीयाम् । सरसीमिव प्रशस्तिं त्रिभुवनपालो व्यधाद्विबु(वु)धः ॥
- 34 ॥४२॥ हारावलीमिव सुवृत्तगुणां गुणाभ्यां कान्त्यन्वितां घनरसप्रकरां प्रशस्तिम् ।
— — ॐ — ॐ ॐ⁶ [कलारचितप्रकर्षः] कौतूहलात्कुमरपालवु(वु)धो लिलेख
॥४३॥ धनपतिनाम्ना कृतिना शिल्पिवरेणश्चरेण च मनोज्ञा । उक्तीर्षा
प्रचुररसा प्र-
- 35 शस्त्रिरियमक्षरै रुचिरैः ॥४४॥ यावन्मण्डलमम्ब(म्ब)रेम्ब(म्ब)रमणेश्वरेशचूडामणि-
चन्द्रः सान्द्रकरोत्करेण कुरुते — — ॐ — — कलाम् । यावदक्षमि चा-
[स्ति] पद्मसदना कौमोदकीलक्षणस्तावत्कीर्त्तिरियञ्चकास्तु विशदा विश्वभरा-
मण्डले ॥४५॥
- 36 सम्बत्⁷ ९१५ [॥*]

¹ Read *grāmaṁ*.² Read *samanvitam*.³ The first two of the missing *aksharas* appear to be *vētā*. Read *vēt-ārth-ādhivāṁ*.⁴ Read *sāhitya*—.⁵ The first three *aksharas* of this name are damaged, but from Aurangabadkar's mention of Anantapāla as the father of Tribhuvanapāla, the *aksharas* can be restored as *-m=Ananta-*.⁶ The missing *aksharas* can be supplied with the help of the Ratanpur MS. as *dyā-rvñōtana*. Elsewhere the name of this scribe appears as *Kumārāpāla*. The second *akshara* of the name is shortened here for the sake of the metre, following the adage : *api māśhaṁ māśhaṁ kuryāch=chhandō-bhugam na karayēt*.⁷ Read *Samvat*.

TRANSLATION

Success ! Ōm ! Adoration to Śiva !

(V. 1) May the divine half-moon-crested (*Śiva*) increase your welfare !—(*he*) who has three eyes as if because of his desire to see simultaneously, at the time of playful amorous enjoyment, the pair of gold-pitcher-like breasts and the lotus-like face of **Pārvatī**, the daughter of the mountain !

(V. 2) May that Nilakanṭha (*i.e.*, *Śiva*) grant you fortune !—(*he*) whose neck with a white surrounding on account of [the smearing of] ashes, imitating the beauty of collyrium, a row of blue lotuses, a line of bees, a sapphire, wild buffaloes and a mass of darkness, appears like the slope of a ridge of the snow-mountain, covered with a cloud, dark with the surcharge of water !

(V. 3) May that lover of *Pārvatī* remove your sin !—seeing in the nails of whose lotus-like feet as in the surface of a mirror the reflection of the universe in the form of Brahman, Indra, Viṣṇu, the moon, the jewel of heaven (*i.e.*, the sun), the principal mountains, the earth, the oceans and other things, the daughter of the lord of mountains (*Pārvatī*), at the time of her marriage, was struck with wonder, her moon-like face being bent in bashfulness !

(V. 4) May that lord of serpents, Śeṣha, grant happiness to the worlds !—(*he*) on whose lap there sleeps for a long time Nārāyaṇa, in the unique cavity of whose belly as in a cottage there rests the universe and whose feet are caressed by the lotus-like hands of Lakṣmī ; and on account of the precious stones in whose numerous hoods the ocean came to be the store of jewels !

(V. 5) This famous province (*maṇḍala*) of **Talahāri** is the ornament of the earth—which is surrounded on all sides by tanks with full-blown lotuses and humming bees and is adorned with gardens which appear beautiful with plantain trees shining [in the groves of mangoes and other trees] and to which the god of love is attracted by the excessive warbling of cuckoos.

(V. 6) [In the Talahāri province] where the regions are noisy [with the humming of bees hovering on] blooming, fresh, blue lotuses [in the desire for honey dripping from them], the teachers, the cavities of whose ears are, in admiration, filled with the musical sound, do not mark the faulty (*pronunciation*) of crowds of pupils reciting (*their texts*).

(V. 7) Here, while its fair fame, resembling the lord of serpents, [the moon, camphor-powder, silver, milk, pearl-necklaces and others], is roaming in all directions, the *chakōra* birds even now eagerly fly (*after it*), mistaking it, for the rays of the moon.

(V. 8) In the sacrificial enclosures in it, the line of smoke, as it speedily touches the expanse of the sky, is looked at by the peacocks which scream in joy, mistaking it for a multitude of clouds.

(V. 9) Then there was born **Prithvīpāla**. From the necks of the hostile princes struck by him with the sharp sword grasped in his hand . . . for half a moment subjects himself to apprehension.

(V. 10) [Whose fame of bright lustre resembling lightning] and wearing a white necklace of spotless pearls scattered from the large frontal globes of the best elephants of his enemies cleft by the strokes of his sword . . . has gone from the earth to the region of the sky in order to divert itself.

(V. 11) From him was born the illustrious **Brahmadēva**, the foremost of feudatories, the play-house of fame white like the moon, (*and*) the resting place of valour,—(*he*) who is to the

parting line of hair of the wives of hostile warriors struck by his sword what a cloud is to the moon¹

(V. 12) [The heavenly damsels] gathering together again and again on the path of gods (*i.e.*, in the sky) and conversing with crowds of hostile warriors killed on the battle-field as they speedily became gods. rumbling out of seasons.

(V. 13) . . . like the man-lion, he is the best of men ; like Achyuta (Vishṇu) wielding his uplifted discus, he leads a victorious army ; like Vishṇu who is fond of the bird (*Garuḍa*) and reclines on the best of serpents, he is fond of the Brāhmaṇas and lives in the company of the best of kings² (or, Nāga princes ?)

(V. 14) (*This is completely effaced.*)

(V. 15) Who accepted a beloved clad in a black garment . . . who had lovely, compact and large breasts, and who just then fell in love with him . . . Taking off furiously the sheath (*of his sword*)

(V. 16) In the fight in which the strokes of his creeper-like sword appeared like (*flashes of*) lightning and in which it was difficult to move about on account of multitudes of streams of blood gushing forth from the necks of crowds of wrathful foes, he, having attacked the hostile king **Jatēśvara**

(V. 17) He is to his enemies what the sun is to a mass of darkness ; he is Pradyumna to women (*and*) the preceptor of gods (*i.e.*, Bṛihaspati) in the right judgment of speech ; being well known for imprisoning (*his*) mighty (*foe*)³, he resembles Kṛishṇa (*who in his Dwarf incarnation imprisoned Bali, but, unlike Kṛishṇa*) he is not dark-complexioned⁴.

(V. 18) Though (*like the ocean*) he is . . . dear to all creatures, appears charming with his great vitality (*as the ocean does with its abundant store of water*), has attained a supreme position by his command of all armies (*as the ocean has by its lordship over all rivers*), and is a receptacle of precious things (*as the ocean is a treasure of gems*), he does not (*unlike the ocean which gives shelter to water*) give refuge to dullards.

(V. 19) The regions at the extremity of the earth which appear beautiful with the magnificent bridge of Rāma (*and*) those, the water of the ocean in which is absorbed by the navels of the women in the city of Varuṇa, have been resorted to by his fame.⁵

(V. 20) ' This [Brahmadēva, who is the sun to] the lotuses which are the faces of the excellent ladies who come out of eagerness to see his handsome form, [may come] to our world to give away wealth to supplicants in charity '—Being as it were urged by gods through such apprehension⁶, the sun moves continuously round the regions on the slopes of the golden mountain (Mēru) for its protection.

¹ As the moon hidden behind a cloud is no more visible, so the parting of hair on the part of those ladies is no longer to be seen, they being too full of grief to attend to their toilet.

² There is a play on the words *chakra* meaning (i) a discus and (ii) an army, *divijāti* meaning (i) the bird *Garuḍa* and (ii) a Brāhmaṇa, and *bhōgin* meaning (i) a serpent and (ii) a Nāga prince or an officer in charge of a *Bhōga* or *Bhukti* (sub-division).

³ This may refer to the imprisonment of Jatēśvara.

⁴ There is contradiction here, since the prince Brahmadēva is said to be Kṛishṇa and still not to have the complexion of Kṛishṇa, but the contradiction is only apparent, the figure being *Virōdhābhāsa*.

⁵ The regions in all the four directions were described in this verse. The first hemistich which described the northern and eastern regions is almost completely lost. The description in the second hemistich refers to the southern and western regions.

⁶ The idea in this verse occurs also in verse 17 of the Mallār stone inscription, above, Vol. I, p. 41.

(V. 21) Consigning the yoke of the government to him who, being a treasure of merits, had been brought over from the Talahāri-*maṇḍala* and who killed hostile kings with the strokes of the sword grasped in his hand, the king *Prithvidēva* (II), the lord of the famous Kōśala country, obtained great mental happiness.

(V. 22) [Seeing that] on the orb of the earth is like dew-drops on (*the petal of*) a lotus shaken by the wind, that wealth is of unsteady duration resembling mostly the flashes [of lightning] and that men's youth imitates (*in fickleness*) the shining of the fire-fly, he who had acquired abundant wealth [by valour] exerted himself for piety.

(V. 23) In this¹ Mallāla which renders the circle of regions fragrant with abundant [full-grown] lotuses, he constructed a temple of Dhūrjaṭi (Śiva) (*distinguished*) by these banners set in motion by wind, which remove the perspiration, caused by fatigue, of the horses of the sun.

(V. 24) [And he constructed] a tank, which appears beautiful with clusters of full-blown lotuses, the rows of the waves of which are broken by the protruding breasts of town ladies, and which is crowded on all sides with multitudes of swans sporting in water.

(V. 25) The religious merit of this temple, the splendour of which is beautiful like that of the moon's rays and *kunda* flowers, he assigned to the king *Prithvidēva* (II) of pious nature.

(V. 26) He constructed ten large and beautiful temples of Tryambaka (Śiva), [bright] like moon-light, full-blown night-lotuses, *kunda* flowers and the mountain of crystals (*i.e.*, Kailāsa).

(V. 27) At this very place he [constructed] two lotus-pools which delighted the ears of travellers with the sweet humming (*of bees*) in water.

(V. 28) He erected at the famous Varēlāpura, a temple of Śrīkaṇṭha (Śiva), white like the lustre of the moon, and covered with flags fluttering in the wind; having received habitation in which, the god (Śiva), the lord of Ambikā, has given up completely his longing for living on Kailāsa

(V. 29) By him there were built at Ratnapura nine cloud-kissing excellent temples of (*Pār-vatī*) the daughter of the Himālaya, (*which are*) white like night-lotuses, the moon, *kunda* flowers, snow, pearl-necklaces and *lavalī* (*flowers and*) the flags of which flutter in the wind.

(V. 30) He made here a large and beautiful well, with wonderful steps, the waves of which were stirred by the plump breasts of town ladies sporting (*in its water*).

(V. 31) In the northern and southern directions of Ratnapura he made two beautiful tanks which are rendered noisy by the buzzing of the swarms of bees humming on clusters of full-blown lotuses and the banks of which are crowded with numerous swans sporting (*in, their water*).

(V. 32) At the village named Gōṭhālī he made a pleasant tank which is occupied by crowds of fishes as heaven is by gods.²

(V. 33) He constructed at Nārāyaṇapura a temple of Dhūrjaṭi (Śiva), white like the moon, which with its flags scrapes the sky.

(V. 34) He made a tank near the village Bamhaṇī, which, like the story of the *Bhārata*³ is

¹ The wording of verse 23 may be taken to signify that the inscription originally came from Mallāla, but notice a similar wording in V. 30.

² There is a play on the expression *a-nimēśa-dṛśī* (*lit.*, having unwinking eyes). It signifies (i) fishes and (ii) gods.

³ The verse apparently contained an expression which by means of *double entendre* described both the tank and the story of the *Mahābhārata*.

(V. 35) He made a lovely large lake at the village called Charauya and [a beautiful temple of Śiva] at Tējallapura.

(V. 36) At the town of Kumārākōṭa he made another lovely temple of (Śiva) the husband of Pārvatī, resplendent like the mass of his own fame.

(V. 37) He himself planted a grove of mango trees which with their very dense shade removes the heat (*of the sun*) and with its multitude of fruits reached by the hand, pleases travellers and where the knot of stubborn reserve of proud young ladies gives way at the imperious command of the god of love, which is begun (*to be communicated*) by the mingling sweet notes of the warbling cuckoos.

(V. 38) Having partaken, to their hearts' content, of the various kinds of foods and drinks as desired in the charitable feeding house of the great sacrificer, such loud cries of pilgrims daily make the circle of regions resound, (*viz.*).....

(V. 39) To the god Sōmanātha the pious one granted [the village] Lōṇākara together with all taxes.....

(V. 40) There was the learned Anantapāla of extensive fame, born in the Gauḍa lineage, who mastered the path of poets, who always secured a place at the head of good people, whose thoughts were rendered pure by his knowledge [of the contents of the Vēdas], who was clever in literary discussions, who attained renown in the department of records (*and*) was a play-house of fortune.

(V. 41) [From him] was born Tribhuvanapāla who gives shelter to all Brāhmaṇas and who, being a treasure of arts, has (*all*) his desires completely fulfilled, even as from the milky ocean is produced the moon which, being the repository of digits, exceedingly adorns all quarters and maintains all (*chākōra*) birds.¹

(V. 42) The learned Tribhuvanapāla has composed this *praśasti* (eulogy) resembling a lake,—which is full of flavour (*as a lake has abundant water*), is profound (*as a lake is deep*) and clear and is pleasing to the thoughts of poets.

(V. 43) The wise Kumārāpāla, who has attained excellence in learning and fine arts, has with eagerness written this *praśasti* resembling a necklace of pearls—which has the merit of (*being composed in*) good metres (*as the necklace has that of having well-rounded pearls*), which is rich in merits (*as the necklace is in threads*) and which (*like the necklace*) appears brilliant and is full of deep sentiments (*as the necklace is possessed of great charm*).²

(V. 44) This pleasant *praśasti*, abounding in sentiments, is incised in beautiful letters by the skilful and best sculptors named Dhanapati and Īśvara.

(V. 45) As long as the moon, the gem of the sky and the crest-jewel of (Śiva) the lord of Chaṇḍī, makes the orb (*of the earth*) white with its dense rays, as long as the lotus-dwelling (*goddess of fortune*) rests on the breast of the god who is distinguished by the (*mace*) Kaumōdaka (*i.e.*, of Viṣṇu), even so long may this bright temple³ shine on the orb of the earth!

(L. 36) The Year 915.

¹ There is a play on three expressions here which are intended to be construed with Tribhuvanapāla and the moon.

² The expressions in the first hemistich of this verse are on account of *double entendre* intended to be construed with the *praśasti* (eulogy) as well as with the *hāravalī* (pearl-necklace).

³ The text has *kīrti* which means 'any work of public utility, calculated to render famous the name of the constructor of it'. See *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, p. 212, n. 6. It probably refers here to the temple of Sōmanātha mentioned in verses 36 and 39.

No. 36—RAJGHAT PLATES OF GOVINDACHANDRADEVA : V. S. 1197

BY KRISHNA DEVA, M.A., DELHI

The record edited below consists of **two copper-plates** which were unearthed 5' below surface from an ancient mound at **Rājghāṭ** in the northern outskirts of the city of Benares in the beginning of July 1940 in course of earth-work excavation by the East Indian Railway in connection with the project of the extension and remodelling of the Kashi railway station and the regirdering of the Dufferin Bridge on the Ganges. On receiving information of their discovery, Rao Bahadur K. N. Dikshit, Director General of Archæology in India, promptly acquired them from the railway authorities through Mr. S. J. P. Cambridge, Engineer-in-charge of the project. I am grateful to Rao Bahadur Dikshit for kindly according me permission and every facility to edit the plates which are now deposited in the Bhārat Kalā Bhavan, Benares.

The mound from which the plates were recovered is situated immediately to the east of the Kashi goods yard. Though the actual findspot has been levelled down to a depth of about 8' below the top of the mound and abuts on the compound of the office of the said project, marking the middle of its northern boundary line, the continuation of the mound in the north, which is perched by some Muslim graves and a well, still stands intact and attests the original contour and height of the mound. An examination of the cutting of the mound revealed traces of old structural remains at the same level with the findspot of the plates, superimposed by a later concrete floor of perhaps the Muslim period. In view of the continued occupation in antiquity of the Rājghāṭ site from the Śuṅga to the Gāhaḍavāla period, which has been proved by the subsequent excavations of the Archæological Department, it is quite likely that the plates were found from the Gāhaḍavāla stratum, if not actually from the house of the grantee of the charter.

The set consists of two copper-plates, each measuring $15" \times 11\frac{1}{2}"$. Their edges are fashioned thicker and raised into rims for the protection of the writing which is inscribed on one side only of each plate. They are held together by a circular **ring** which passes through a ring-hole of $\frac{5}{8}"$ diameter. The ring-hole is pierced through the middle of the bottom of the first plate and the top of the second. To the ring is affixed a circular **seal**, measuring $2\frac{3}{4}"$ in diameter and bearing within a thin circular border and concentric band of incised indentations, representations of flying Garuḍa in the upper field and the *śaṅkha* in the lower, with the legend *Śrīmad-Govīndachandradēvaḥ*, engraved in Nāgarī in the middle. The plates with the ring and seal weigh 551 *tolas*. The plates were found securely packed in a roughly fashioned sandstone box made of two similar carved trays put one above the other, each of which measures $24" \times 18" \times 3"$. Originally the trays must have been held together by means of a string for which a number of grooves have been incised all along their outer edges. The inner recess of the stone receptacle was carved nearly to the size of the plates and a special projection with a deeply cut groove was provided in the middle of its width to accommodate the ring and the seal.

The plates are in an excellent state of preservation and the execution of the writing is careful and elegant. Altogether there are 35 lines of writing of which the first plate contains 18 lines and the second 17 lines. The height of the letters is $\frac{3}{8}"$. The **characters** of the inscription are Nāgarī and the **language** Sanskrit. With the exception of 9 verses in the beginning and 10 imprecatory and benedictory verses in the end, the rest of the record is in prose. Like other Gāhaḍavāla records, the first verse of this is introductory in praise of Lakshmi and Vishnu and the following eight are devoted to the eulogy of a succession of Gāhaḍavāla rulers ending with the donor of the grant.

In respect of **orthography** the following points are worth noting : (1) *B* is invariably denoted by the sign for *v*, e.g., *vāku-vallī-vaddh-* (l. 9), *-āmvu* (l.10), *vabhramur-* (l.11), *Kanyakurj-* (ll. 12-13), *vōdhayaty-* (l. 18), etc. (2) *Sh* has been wrongly substituted for *kh* in *śēsharam* (l. 22) and *kh* for *sh* in *gartōkharah* (l. 19). (3) *S* has been incorrectly used for *ś* in *yasah* (l. 3), *Kāsi* (l. 5), *satasas-* (l. 6), *-ādisati* (l. 18), *visuddhah* (l. 20), *sāsanam* (l. 35), etc. and *ś* for *s* in *śāmdr-* (l. 10), *śēnāpati* (ll. 16-17), *sahasrāṇi* (l. 28), *vaśundharām* (l. 29), etc. (4) Combinations of consonants and nasals have been indiscriminately represented by either *anusvāra* or a nasal of the same class, e.g., *akunth-ōtkanṭha* and *ārambhē* (l. 1), *-āṅkitā* (l. 6), *maṇḍalē* (l. 8), *mantri-* (l. 16), etc., as against *Mahīchamdraś-* (ll. 2-3), *narēmdrah* (l. 10), *Gōvīndachamdra* (l. 15), *saṃplavam* (l. 32), *viṃdu* (l. 33), etc. (5) A consonant following *r* has very often been doubled, e.g., *dōr-vvikramēṇ-ārjṇitam* (l. 5), *-ōpārjṇita-* (l. 12), *sa-parṇṇ-* (l. 19), *tarppayitvā* (ll. 21-22), *gōkarṇṇa* (l. 23), *pūrvvakam* (l. 24), *karmṇāṇau* and *svargga-* (l. 27), *dharmmah* (l. 33), etc., the few exceptions being *havirbhujam* (l. 23), *sētur-nripāṇām* (l. 34), etc. (6) *Anusvāra* has been rightly changed into final *m* at the end of the metrical stanza in *-ārjṇitam* (l. 5), *phalam* (l. 31) and *saṃplavam* (l. 32), but not at the end of the second quarter as in *vaśundharām* (l. 29), *aṅgulam* (l. 31), etc. (7) *Kākapada* sign has been used at the end of lines 9, 12 and 24 to show in each case that the last word could not be completed in that line and is continued in the next line. (8) Ornamental scroll patterns have been introduced between the *daṇḍas* in lines 15, 26 and 35. Similar ornamental designs also occur in other Gāhaḍavāla records like the Sabēth-Mahēth plate of Gōvīndachandra-dēva (V. S. 1186).¹

The donor of the grant is the *Paramabhaṭṭāraka Mahārājādhirāja Paramēśvara Paramamāhēśvara Gōvīndachandradēva*, the *Gāhaḍavāla* ruler of Kanauj and Benares, of whom as many as forty-three records² dating from V. S. 1171 to V. S. 1211 (A. D. 1114-1154) are already known. The present record repeats the draft of the other copper-plate grants of the ruler, the only new information which it yields being contained in the grant portion. The usual genealogy is given in verses 2-9 and again in lines 11-15.

The **date** of the grant is recorded both in words and in decimal figures in lines 20-21 as Sunday, the *Kārttikī* or the 15th day of the bright half of *Kārttika* in the (*Vikrama*) *Samvat* 1197, which regularly corresponds to Sunday, the 27th October, A.D. 1140. This date is not of much interest as we already have a grant of the ruler dated in V. S. 1197.³

The **object** of the grant is to record the gift of the village *Bhādapa-Nāmdapa* together with its *pāṭakas*, in the *Amavālī-pattalū* to the Brahmin *Bhaṭṭa-Amṭapāṇisarmman*, of the *Bhāradvāja-gōtru* and the three *pravaras*, *Bhāradvāja*, *Āngirasa* and *Vatsa*, son of *Bhārmu* and grandson of *Jatanāyiva*. The gift was made by *Gōvīndachandradēva* after bathing in the Ganges at *Vārāṇasī* in the *Ādikēśava-ghaṭṭa*. The *Chandrāvati* plate of *Chandradēva* of V. S. 1156, which also refers to the god *Ādikēśava*, is the earliest record to mention the *Ādikēśava-ghaṭṭa* which is described as *janita-Surasurid-Varaṇ-āghamarshaṇa*,⁴ implying that it was situated on the sacred confluence of the Ganges and the *Barnā*. The present situation of the *Ādikēśava ghāṭ* exactly conforms to this description and it is interesting to note the close proximity of the *ghāṭ* to the findspot of the present copper-plates. Two other *Gāhaḍavāla*

¹ Above, Vol. XI, pp. 22 ff.

² See R. S. Tripathi, *History of Kanauj*, pp. 369 ff.

³ Above, Vol. IV, p. 111.

⁴ Above, Vol. XIV, p. 198, l. 16.

records mention the Ādikēśava-ghaṭṭa¹ and three more the god Ādikēśava², whose shrine then, as now, was situated on the *ghaṭ* bearing the same name. But the earliest epigraphical reference to this deity, probably the family deity of the Gāhaḍavālas, is found in the following verse occurring in the Chandrāvati plates of Chandradēva of V. S. 1150³.

हैमानि येन मणिभिः खचितान्यनर्घै-

र्त्तानि विष्णुहरये च विभूषणानि ।

काश्यां व्यभूषयदनेकसुवर्णरत्नै-

र्यश्चादिकेशवविभोः प्रतिमां निवेश्य ॥८॥*

This gives us the valuable information that the image of Ādikēśava was installed by Chandradēva in or before V. S. 1150. It is true that the *Kāśī-Khaṇḍa*⁴ of the *Skanda-Purāṇa* contains references to Ādikēśava, but as the age of the work is uncertain and the references are purely of a mythological character, it does not help us to determine whether or not the shrine existed before Chandradēva's period. In the absence of any contradictory evidence, we shall be justified in presuming that Chandradēva was the builder of the Ādikēśava shrine, which comes into prominence only from the 12th century A.D. onwards.

Fortunately the **localities** mentioned in the grant can nearly all be identified. **Bhādapa**, the first component of the compound name of the gift village Bhādapa-Nāmdapa, is the same as the modern Bhadaūn village, which is hardly quarter of a mile to the west of Rājghaṭ where the plates were found. The latter half of the compound, viz. **Nāmdapa**, is perhaps represented by Nadesar, situated in Benares Cantonment, about 2 miles further west. I am, however, unable to identify Amavāli-pattalā. This may be identical with the Amvālī-pattalā, mentioned in the Benares plate of Jayachchandrādēva of V. S. 1234⁵, wherein it is described as *Daivahā-pāre*, i.e., situated across the Daivahā (river).

¹ *J. R. A. S.*, 1896, p. 787; *J. A. S. B.*, Vol. LVI, Part I, p. 109, l. 19.

² *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIX, p. 252; Above, Vol. IV, p. 119, l. 18 and p. 124, l. 24.

³ Above, Vol. XIV, pp. 192 ff. For the verse see plate opposite p. 194, l. 6. It is strange that the editor of this record omitted even to transcribe some new and historically important verses occurring at the beginning of the record. Some of the verses are also found in the Chandrāvati plate of V. S. 1156, which is edited together with the former record. Among such verses are the following which throw light on the vexed question as to who the immediate predecessors of the Gāhaḍavālas were on the throne of Kanauj:

आसीदसे(त्रे)धनरनाथकिरीटकोटिसंघट्टितलसन्धनिपादपीठः । श्रीदेवपालश्रुपतिस्त्र(स्त्रि)जगत्प्रगीतकुदे'दुषामहिमकैरवकान्तकीर्तिः

॥[१*] कालेन नास(श)मद्य तस्य गतेन्ववाये दीर्घस्त्रिक्रमहृतास्त्रितकन्यकुञ्जः(अः) । चावीयमत्र य(य)दुपब्रधानुमन्यमानोव्रति-

विजयते भुवि भूपवंशः ॥[३*] सखिन्वशे समुत्पद्यो यशोविद्यहसंज्ञकः ।

This Dēvapāla is no doubt the homonymous chief of the Rāsthtrakūṭa family, who has been enlogistically referred to in the Badaun inscription of Lakhanapāla (above, Vol. I, p. 64, l. 5). This further corroborates the view of Dr. Tripathi (*History of Kanauj*, p. 290) that a branch of the Rāsthtrakūṭas ruled over Kanauj immediately before the rise of the Gāhaḍavālas.

⁴ Chap. 58, vv. 17 ff.

⁵ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 133, l. 29.

TEXT ¹

[Metres : Vv. 1, 3, 10—16, 19, *Anushtubh* ; v. 2, *Indravajrā* ; vv. 4, 7, *Śārdūlavikrīḍita* ; vv. 5, 6, 8, 17, *Vasantatilakā* ; v. 9, *Drutacilambita* ; v. 18 *Śālīnī*.]

First Plate

- 1 श्री² सिद्धिः ॥ अकुण्ठोत्कण्ठवैकुण्ठकण्ठपीठलुठत्करः । संरम्भः सुरतारम्भे स श्रियः
श्रेयसेस्तु वः ॥[१॥*] आसौदशीतद्युति-
- 2 वंशजातस्त्र्यापालमानामु दिवंगतासु । साक्षाद्विवस्वानिव भूरिधाम्ना नाम्ना यशोवियह
इत्युदारः ॥[२॥*] तत्सुतोभूम्भ-
- 3 हीचंद्रश्च(श्च)द्रधामनिभं निजं । येनापारमकूपारपारे व्यापारितं यसः(शः) ॥[३॥*]
तस्याभूत्तनयो नयैकरसिकः[*] क्रान्तद्विषम्भ-
- 4 ण्डलो विह्व(ह्व)स्तीव्रतधीरयोधतिमिरश्रीचंद्रदेवो नृपः । येनोदारतरप्रतापस(श)मिताशेष-
प्रजोपद्रवं श्रीमद्भाधिपुराधि-
- 5 राज्यमसमं दोर्विक्रमेणार्जितम् ॥[४॥*] तीर्थानि का³सि(शि)कुशिकीत्तरकोशलेन्द्रस्थानो-
यकानि परिपालयताभिगम्य⁴ । हेमात्म-
- 6 तुल्यमनिसं(शं) ददता द्विजेभ्यो येनाङ्किता वसुमती स(श)तस(श)स्तुलाभिः ॥[५॥*]
तस्यात्मजो मदनपाल इति क्षितो⁵द्रचूडामणिर्विज-
- 7 यते निजगोत्रचंद्रः । यस्याभिषेककलसोल्लसितै पयोभिः प्रक्षालितं कलिरजःपटलं
धरित्रयाः ॥[६॥*] यस्यासौद्विजयप्रया-
- 8 णसमये तुङ्गाचलोच्चैश्चलन्माद्यत्कुम्भिपदक्रमासमभरम्भस्य(श्य)म्भहीमण्डले । चूडारत्नवि-
भिन्नतालुगलितस्थानासृगुङ्गा-
- 9 सितः शेषः पेषवशादिव क्षणमसौ क्रोडे निलीनाननः ॥[७॥*] तस्मादजायत
निजायतवा(वा)हुवस्त्रिव(व)द्वावरुह्नवरा⁶

¹ From the original plates and estampages.

² Expressed by a symbol.

³ *Kā* in *Kāśi* occurs below the line and was obviously added subsequently.

⁴ Almost all the other Gāhaḍavāla records substitute *adhiganya* for *abhiyanya* which here means the same thing.

⁵ The *anusvāra* everywhere appears on the right of the medial sign but here it occurs on the left.

⁶ The *kākapada* sign occurs here.

- 10 ज्यगजो नरेन्द्रः । शां(सां)द्रासुतद्रवमुचां प्रभवो गवा(वां) यो गोविन्दचंद्र इति चंद्र
इवाम्बु(स्व)राशेः ॥[८॥*] न कथमप्यलभन्त रणक्षमास्तिसृ-
- 11 षु दिक्षु गजानन्य वज्रिणः । ककुभि व(व)भ्रमुरभ्रमुवक्षभप्रतिभटा इव यस्य घटा-
गजाः ॥[९॥*] सोयं समस्तराजचक्रसंसेवितचर-
- 12 चः ॥ परमभट्टारकमहाराजाधिराजपरमेश्वरपरममाहेश्वरनिजभुजोपार्जितश्रीकन्यकु-¹
- 13 ज्ञा(ज्ञा)धिपत्यश्रीचंद्रदेवपादानुध्यातपरमभट्टारकमहाराजाधिराजपरमेश्वरपरममाहेश्वरश्रीमद-
नपालदेवपा-
- 14 दानुध्यातपरमभट्टारकमहाराजाधिराजपरमेश्वरपरममाहेश्वराक्षपतिगजपतिनरपतिराजच्या-
- 15 धिपतिविविधविद्याविचारवाचस्पतिश्रीमद्रोविंदचंद्रदेवी विजयी ।² । अमवालौपत्तलायाम् ।
सपाटक-
- 16 भादपनांदपग्रामनिवासिनो निखिलजनपदानुपगतानपि च राजराश्रीयुवराजमन्त्रिपुरोहित-
प्रतीहारशे(से)ना-
- 17 पतिभाण्डागारिकाक्षपटलिकभिषग्मैमिसिकान्तःपुरिकदूतकरितुरगपत्तनाकरस्नानगोकुलाधि-
कारिपुष्पा-
- 18 नाम्नापयति वो(वो)धयत्वादिस(श)ति च ॥[*] यथा विदितमस्तु भवतां³ यथोपरिलि-
खित[*]ग्रामः सजलस्थलः ससौहलवणाकरः

Second Plate

- 19 समस्व⁴(द्व्या)करः सपर्णाकरः सगर्त्तेश्च(व)रः समधूकचूतवनविटपवाटिकादृश्यूतिगीचर-
पर्यन्तः सोडा(ह्वा)धस्तुरावाट-
- 20 विष्णु(शु)हः स्वसौमापर्यन्तः सप्तनवत्यधिकैकादस(श)शतसम्बद्धरे कार्तिकीया रविदिने
अङ्कतोपि सम्बत् ११८७ कार्तिक सु(शु)दि १५
- 21 रवौ ॥ अद्येह श्रीमहाराणस्यां श्रीमदादिकेशवघटे विधिव[द्]क्रायां ज्ञात्वा मन्त्रदेव-
मुनिमनुषभूतपिढगणांस्त-
- 22 [र्ष]स्त्रित्वा तिमिरपटलपाटनपटुमहसमुष्णरोचिषमुपस्त्रायौषधिपतिशकलशेष(स्व)रं समभ्यर्च्य
चिभुवनवातु-

¹ *Kākapada*.

² An ornamental pattern between two *danḍas* occupies one inch of space here.

³ Between *dhava* and *tam* there is a gap marked by a *danḍa* at either end because of the interposition of the ring-hole.

⁴ The reading *sa-mats-ākaraḥ* is also likely and will yield the same sense.

- 23 र्वासुदेवस्य पूजां विधाय हविषा हविर्भुजं हुत्वा मातापित्रोरात्मनश्च पुण्ययशोभि-
हृदये गोकर्षकुशलता-
- 24 पूतकरतलोदकपूर्वक¹मस्माभिः भारद्वाजगोत्राय भारद्वाजआङ्गिरसवत्सविःप्रवरायः² जतना-
यिव-³
- 25 पौत्राय भामुपुत्राय भट्टभ्रंतपाणिस(श)र्माणे ब्राह्मणायाचंद्राकं यावच्छासनीकृत्य प्रदत्तो
मत्वा यथादीयमान-
- 26 भागभोगकरप्रवणिकरतुरुक्कदण्डप्रभृतिसर्वादायानाज्ञाश्रवणा(ण)विधेयीभूय दास्यथेति ।
भवन्ति चात्र
- 27 पुण्यश्लोकाः ॥ भूमिं यः प्रतिगृह्णाति यश्च भूमिं प्रयच्छति । उन्नो तो पुण्यक-
र्माणौ नियतं स्वर्गगामिनौ ॥[१०॥*] शंखं भ-
- 28 द्रासनं च्छ(छ)त्रं वराखा(खा) वरवारणाः । भूमिदानस्य चिह्नानि फलमेतत्पुरन्दर
॥[११॥*] षष्ठिं(ष्टिं) वर्षसहस्रा(सा)णि स्वर्गे वसति भूमि-
- 29 दः आच्छेत्ता चानुमन्ता च तान्येव नरके वसेत् ॥[१२॥*] स्वदत्तां परदत्तां
वा यो हरत वश(सु)म्भरां । स विष्ठायां कृमिर्भूत्वा [पि]ढ-
- 30 भिः सह मज्जति ॥[१३॥*] तडागानां सहस्रे(स्रे)ण वाजपेयस(श)तेन च । गवां
कोटिप्रदानेन भूमिहर्ता न शुध्यति ॥[१४॥*] व(व)हुभिर्वसुधा भु-
- 31 क्ता राजभिः सगरादिभिः । यस्य यस्य यदा भूमिस्तस्य तस्य तदा फलम् ॥[१५॥*]
सुवर्त्मकेकं गामिकां भूमिरप्येकमङ्गलं ।
- 32 हरन(त्र)रकमाप्नोति यावदाहृतसंज्ञवम् ॥[१६॥*] वाताभ्रविभ्रममिदं वसुधाधिपे(प)त्य-
मापातमात्रमधुरा विषयोपभोगाः । प्रा-
- 33 शास्त्राण्यजलविंदुसमा नराणां धर्मः सखा परमहो परलोक्याने ॥[१७॥*] सर्वा-
नेतान्माविनो भूमिपालान्भूयो भू-
- 34 यो याचते रामभद्रः । सामान्योयं धर्मसेतुर्नृपाणां काले काले पालनीयो भवद्भिः
॥[१८॥*] अस्मद्भोगे व्यतिक्रान्ते
- 35 यः कश्चिन्नृपतिर्भवेत् । तस्याहं करलग्नोस्मि सा(शा)सनं मा व्यतिक्रमेदिति
॥[१९॥*] श्री⁵ ॥ ⁶ ॥ ⁶ ॥

¹ The *anusvāra* here is redundant.

² Read *tri-pravarāya*.

³ The *kākapada* sign occurs here.

⁴ Between the two *daṇḍas* occurs an ornamental design.

⁵ Expressed by a symbol.

⁶ Ornamental design.

No. 37.—CAPE COMORIN INSCRIPTION OF KULOTTUNGA-CHOLA I

By R. VASUDEVA PODUVAL, B.A., DIRECTOR OF ARCHÆOLOGY, TRAVANCORE STATE

Cape Comorin, also called Kanyākumāri, is the southernmost point of India. It is, in some ancient records, mentioned as Kalikkūḍi¹ situated in the Purattāya-nāḍu, a sub-division of Uttama-Chōla-vaḷanāḍu, in Rājarāja-Ppāṇḍi-nāḍu (or-maṇḍalam)². Kanyākumāri was named Gaṅgai-konḍachōlapuram by Rājēndrachōladēva I. It is situated at a distance of 3½ miles from Agastīśvaram, a village in the taluk of that name in the Trivandrum Division of the Travancore State. The name 'Kanyākumāri' came into vogue after the virgin Goddess i.e., Pārvatī or Durgā to whom the important temple in the place is dedicated. The place is variously known as Kaṇṇi, Kumari or Kanyākumāri.³ It was included in the domain of the Pāṇḍya kings and formed its southern boundary.⁴ From time immemorial, the Pāṇḍyas were the guardians of Kanyākumāri and its temple, one of their distinguishing titles being *Kaṇṇi-kāvalaṇ*, the guardian of Kaṇṇi i.e., Kanyākumāri.⁴

Kanyākumāri is considered a very sacred place by the Hindus; and its antiquity can be traced to a remote past. "Those who wish to consecrate the closing part of their lives to religion come hither and bathe and engage themselves to celibacy. This is also done by women, since it is related that the Goddess once upon a time resided at the place and bathed."⁵

The *Mahābhārata*⁶ and the *Maṇimēkalai*⁷ speak of the sanctity of Kanyākumāri. The author of Periplus (A.D. 85), Ptolemy (A.D. 150), the Muhammadan historian Abulfeida (A.D. 1203), the Venetian traveller Marco Polo (A.D. 13th century) and many Tamil poets of the Śaṅgam age have made references to Cape Comorin.

The temple of the Goddess Kanyākumāri is built on the very brink of the Indian Ocean. It has a large wealth of epigraphical material throwing light on the history of some of the South Indian dynasties such as the Chōlas, the Pāṇḍyas, Vijayanagara kings, and the royal house of Travancore. The inscription of Virarājēndra⁸ is the most important one in the temple, and may be fitly called the *Chōla-vaṃśa-praśasti*. It is extremely important for the history of the Chōlas as it contains much information hitherto unknown to history.

The existence of several Chōla inscriptions in Cape Comorin and its suburbs shows that the southern part of Travancore was once under the rule of Chōla kings in ancient days. Especially during the reign of Kulōttuṅga I, the power of Chōla kings was considerably strengthened in the Tamil land. An inscription of Kulōttuṅga at Chidambaram⁹ states that the king defeated an army at Kōṭṭār (in South Travancore) and burnt the fortress of the place. It also mentions that he erected a pillar of victory at the sea-coast.

¹ *Travancore Archaeological Series*, Vol. I, p. 161.

² *Ibid.*, p. 164.

³ *Puṇānūru* (1894), pp. 8 and 21.

⁴ *Tamil Nigunḍu*.

⁵ Caldwell's *History of Tinnevely*, p. 19; *I. A. S.*, vol. III, p. 87 ff.

⁶ *Mahābhārata*, Vanaparvan.

⁷ *Maṇimēkalai* (1931), pp. 57, 142 and 190.

⁸ Above, Vol. XVIII, pp. 21-55, and *T. A. S.*, Vol. III, pp. 85-158.

⁹ Above, Vol. V, p. 103 f.

The inscription edited below is engraved on a pillar on the north of the *maṇi-maṇḍapa* in front of the *utsava* shrine of the Kanyābhagavati temple. It belongs to the **fourteenth year** of the reign of **Kulōttuṅga-Chōladēva I** (A.D. 1084). The record is in sixteen lines and occupies a space of 24 inches square. Some of the letters in lines 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 are indistinct. The **language** and **script** of the inscription are Tamil and bear a close resemblance to those of the Tirukkalukkuṇṇam record of Kulōttuṅga I¹.

There are four inscriptions² of Kulōttuṅga I already published in the *Travancore Archaeological Series*. Two of them are from the Śiva temple at Chōlapuram and one from Vāriyūr in South Travancore. The present one is the fifth of his records discovered in Travancore and the first noticed at Cape Comorin. It refers to certain arrangements for the feeding of Brahmins in the temple of Kanyā-Patāriyār at **Kumari** situated in **Purattāya-nāḍu**, a sub-division of **Uttamachōla-vaḷanāḍu** in Rājārāja-Ppāṇḍināḍu.

Of the **geographical places** mentioned in the record **Rājārāja-Ppāṇḍināḍu** is the tract of land which included Kanyākumāri or modern Cape Comorin. **Uttamachōla-vaḷanāḍu** is a division of the Rājārāja-Ppāṇḍināḍu. **Purattāya-nāḍu** means a *nāḍu* which is outside the country. The country east of Kōṭṭūr was known in the olden days as Purattāya-nāḷu or the country outside Vēṇāḷ.³ It was a sub-division of Uttamachōla-vaḷanāḍu mentioned above. **Rāyakkuḍi**, **Peruṅkuḍi** and **Śēngaḷūr** are villages contiguous to Kanyākumāri.

TEXT

1 Svasti Śri[|*]Kulōttuṅga-[Chōladē]-	9 nniraṇḍum Peruṅkuḍi-chchālā-
2 var̥ku yāṇḍu [paḍinnālāvaḍu]	10 bōgattil kalam irupattira[ṇ*]ḍum
3 Irājarāja-[Ppāṇḍi-nāṭtu] Ut-	11 Śēngaḷūr-āṇa Śikā ⁴....maṅgalat-
4 tama-Chōla-vaḷanāṭtu Purattā-	12 tu=kkalam panniraṇḍum
5 ya-nāṭtu= Kkumari -Kkaṇṇi[yā-patā]ri-	13 Chchāttaṇēri-kkalam iraṇḍum ā
6 yār kōyillil Brāhmaṇarai amidu-	14 ⁵ i-chchā-
7 cheyya=kkarpitta kalam nam ⁶ Rāya-	15 lābōgattil [aimpa]ḍu ⁷ Brāhmaṇā-
8 kkuḍi-chchālābōgattir=kalam pa-	16 r=amirdu variyil-iṭṭukkkuḍuttōm [|*]

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS

In the **14th (regnal) year of Kulōttuṅga-Chōladēva (I)**, We have given for the feeding of Brahmins in the Kāṇṇiyā-Patāriyār temple at **Kumari** belonging to **Purattāya-nāḍu**, a sub-division of **Uttamachōla-vaḷanāḍu** in **Rājārāja-Ppāṇḍināḍu**: 12 *kalams* from our **Rāyakkuḍi śālābhōgam** (i.e., endowment of land for the maintenance of a rest house, etc.), 2 *kalams* from **Peruṅkuḍi śālābhōgam**, 12 *kalams* from **Śēngaḷūr alias Śikā**....maṅgalam and two *kalams* fromChāttaṇēri.

¹ *S. I. I.*, Vol. III, p. 165 ff.

² *T. A. S.*, Vol. I, pp. 242—248.

³ *Travancore State Manual* (1906), Vol. I, p. 180.

⁴ [Reading is *Narirāyakkuḍi*; and this village is apparently the same as *Narirākkudi* mentioned in the Kanyākumāri inscription *Virarājendra* (*T. A. S.*, Vol. III, p. 149, text-line 440).—N. L. R.]

⁵ [Reading is *Śikaraṇamangalattu*.—N. L. R.]

⁶ [Reading is *ga kalam nārattu eṭṭum*.—V. V.]

⁷ [Reading is *nimanta*.—V. V.]

No. 38.—BAUDH PLATES OF SALONABHANJA

BY KRISHNA CHANDRA PANIGRAHI, M.A., SAMBALPUR

These **copper-plates** were sent to Mr. T. N. Ramachandran, M.A., Officiating Superintendent of the Archæological Section, Indian Museum, Calcutta, on the 9th July, 1939, by Mr. S. Roy, B.A., Bar-at-law, the Dewan of the Baudh State, Orissa. According to the information furnished by the latter, they were found by one Braja Padhan, a cultivator of **Baudhgarh**, the capital of the State, while cultivating his paddy field on the 4th July, 1939. I am indebted to Mr. Ramachandran for the kind permission he has given me for editing the plates.

They are **three** in number, each measuring about $8\frac{1}{10}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ across the centre, and are held together by a copper **ring** about 12" in circumference, which passes through the hole made in the top centre of each plate. The ends of the ring are secured by a **seal** containing the figure of a vase in relief, but no legend. The inscription consists of 42 lines of writing incised on both the sides of the middle sheet and on the inner face of the first and last sheets. The letters are well-formed and deep-cut, and the inscription is in perfect preservation. The plates together with the ring and the seal weigh about 134 *tolas*.

The **language** is Sanskrit. The composition of the record is mostly in verse and partly in prose. It contains some grammatical and spelling mistakes which are corrected in their proper places. In respect of **orthography** the following points may be noted : (1) *v* is used for *b* invariably ; (2) a consonant following *r* is in some cases reduplicated and in others left single, e.g., *kīrttiḥ* and *Durjaya*, l. 5 ; (3) *s* is often used for *ś* as in *vamsē*, l. 2 ; (4) *anusvāra* occasionally takes the place of a class nasal and a final *m*, for example, in *maṇḍal*, l. 6, and *varjitam*, l. 16.

The **characters** used in the record are proto-Oriya and may be classed with those used in the Ādipur plate of Durjayabhañja¹, the Mahadā plates of Yōgēśvaradēvavarman², the Patna Museum plates of Sōmēśvara³ and the Baudh plates of Kanakabhañja⁴. The last named grant has been assigned to the third quarter of the fifteenth century A.D. by Mr. B. C. Mazumdar. If this dating be accepted, the present plates must be placed in the middle or the third quarter of the sixteenth century A.D., because in the Baudh plates of Kanakabhañja, certain letters, such as *p*, *m*, *s*, and *y* still retain their earlier forms and are found along with most other letters, without rounded tops, while in the present grant, they as well as most other letters show distinct rounded tops, which is a peculiarity of the modern Oriya script and which must have taken at least a century to develop. But in the last quarter of the fifteenth century A.D. we find full-fledged Oriya script, with very slight difference from the modern one in one copper-plate grant of Purushōttamadēva, King of Orissa.⁵ The charter under review, therefore, cannot be assigned to the fifteenth century, much less to the sixteenth century A.D. It must be placed in the fourteenth century A.D. at the latest and consequently other plates containing proto-Oriya characters with less developed rounded tops must be pushed back to the thirteenth century A.D. or even earlier.

The **object** of the inscription is to record the grant of the village **Nayaḍā** situated in the Khatyā-*vishaya* of the Gandharavāḍi-*maṇḍala* to a Brahmin named Mahādēva, son of Krishna and grandson of Gōṇa, belonging to the Kāśyapa-*gōtra* and the Yajurveda by **Mahāmaṇḍalēśvara Śrī-Salōṇabhañjadēva**, son of Durjayabhañja and grandson of Śilābhañja.

¹ Above, Vol. XXV, pp. 172 f., and plate.

² *Ibid.*, Vol. XII, pp. 218 ff., and plate

³ *Ibid.*, Vol. XIX, pp. 97 ff., and plate

⁴ *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. II, pp. 356-374, and plates.

⁵ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. I, pp. 355 ff., and plate.

Salōṇabhaṇja, the donor, is not known from any other record. Sōlaṇabhaṇja of the Baudh plates of Kanakabhaṇja,¹ represented as the father of Raṇabhaṇja and grandfather of Kanakabhaṇja, must be an altogether different person, since, in view of the foregoing palæographical discussions, the two records cannot be regarded as belonging to one and the same period. The donor, unlike other Bhaṇja rulers of Khijjīṅgakōṭṭa² and Khinjali³, does not trace the origin of his family to a peahen's egg nor speaks of Vaśishṭha as the protector of the family. But like Kanakabhaṇja of the Baudh plates, he represents Kāśyapa as the progenitor of his family—a name which is generally connected with the persons whose family name is unknown. It seems probable that this branch of the Bhaṇja family to which the donor belonged, forgot its ancient connection with the main Bhaṇja line and came to be regarded as a distinct dynasty.

Svarṇṇapura from which Durjayabhaṇja, the father of the donor, is said to have ruled, may be identical with modern Sonepur, the headquarters of the State of the same name. **Gandharavāḍi** and **Khatyā** may respectively be identified with Gōēhhābāri in the Baudh State and Kaintrāgarh in the Athmallik State. The latter is situated on the north bank of the Mahānadi river and is not far from the headquarters of the Athmallik State. Since the gift village Nayaḍā included in the *vishaya* of Khatyā is said to have the Mahānadi river as its northern boundary (l. 25), the identification of Khatyā with Kaintrā is placed on surer grounds. The word *garh* (fort) which is generally added to the names of old places in Orissa, must have come to be associated with it later on. From the identification of the place-names given above, it seems clear that the territories ruled over by Salōṇabhaṇja, his father and grandfather roughly comprised the tracts now known as Sonepur, Baudh and Athmallik States of Orissa.

TEXT⁴

First Plate

- 1 Siddham⁵ [||*] Ōm namō Nārāyaṇāya || Svasti śrī-Kāśya (śya)pō dhanyō mu-
- 2 ni-mā(r=mā)nyas=tapō-dhikaḥ | tad-vaiṇś(śē) **Bhaṇja**-vaiṇśō=yam=āsich=chhūra-
- 3 ḥ sva-dharma-kṛita(t) || [1*]⁶ Yō maṇḍalaṁ **Gandharavāḍi**-saṁjñam=utpōdayāmāsa
bhu-
- 4 jā-va(ba)lēna | va(ba)lēna Sōm-ōdbhava-bhuktam=āsīt=sa śrī-**Śilābhaṇja** u-
- 5 dāra-kīrttiḥ || [2*]⁷ Tasy=ātma-jō **Durjayabhaṇja**-nāmā nripō=vasat=**Svarṇṇapurē**-
nvaśā-
- 6 *ch=cha | yō maṇḍal-ēsō(śā)n=nija-vā(bā)hu-vīryād=āsīd=raṇē śūra-jan-āgrāṇi(ṇi)-
gyaḥ(jñah) * || [3*]⁸

¹ J. B. O. R. S., Vol. II, pp. 356 ff.

² Ind. Hist. Quart., Vol., XIII, pp. 418 ff.

³ J. B. O. R. S., Vol. II, pp. 429 ff. The editor of this document, Mr. B. C. Mazumdar, wrongly reads *mō* (*bō*)*dhayati* as *Baudha-pati*, which also seems to have been accepted by Dr. Bhandarkar in his *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, No. 1490.

⁴ From inked impressions and the original.

⁵ Expressed by a symbol.

⁶ Metre : *Anushtubh*.

⁷ Metre : *Upajāti*.

⁸ Before *ch=cha* there is a cancelled letter.

* [The reading appears to be *-āgralēgrayaḥ* which is presumably intended for *-āgrāṇīr-yaḥ*.—B. C. C.]

- 7 Tat-sūnuḥ śrī-Salōṇaḥ sakala-jana-manō-vāñchhit-ārtha-pradātā datta-kshmā-gō-
 8 hiraṇy-anna-kṛita-va(ba)hu-vṛi(bṛi)hat¹-pushkara(ri)ṇy-ādi-va(ba)ndhaḥ || (i) nity-ānush
 thāna-karma-praja-
 9 nita-yaśas=āchchhādita-dvēshi-paska(paksha)ḥ śaśvat saṃgrāma-mūrdhany=ari-nikara-
 śirō
 10 lāghavēna nyavādāt || [4*]² Madhya-dēs-ōdbhavō vipraḥ śruti-smṛti-purāṇa-vit || (i)
 nā-
 11 mnā Gōula ity=āsich=chhāntaḥ Kāśyapa-gōtrajaḥ || [5*]³ Tat-putraḥ Kṛiṣṇa-nām=āsīd-
 Yaju-
 12 rvēda-vid=ātmavit [1*] vra(bra)hma-nyasta-manaskaḥ san=nīta-kā[1]-āvaśēshakaḥ || [6*]³
 Tat-sū-

Second Plate ; First Side

- 13 nus=tārkikō jñāta-vēdāntō vēda-vit=kaviḥ | upāsani-
 14 Mahādēvaḥ śrīmān=pātraṃ sa uttamam(m) || [7*]³ Khatyā-vishaya-sa-
 15 mva(mba)ddham Gandharavādi-maṇḍalē | **Nayaḍā**-grāmam=ētasmai sa-
 16 rv-ōpadrava-varjitam(m) | [8*]³ Sa-nidhy-upanidhiñ=ch=ēmam s-ōpajāt-ānya-
 17 vastukam | sa śrī-Salōṇabhamjō=yam dattavān-pu-
 18 ṇya-vṛiddhayē || [9*]³ Prati-samvatsaram dēyam nṛipa-vandāpa-
 19 n-ārthakam(m) | grām-ādhipatinā vāsō-yugam=ēkam nṛipē=pa-
 20 ram(m)⁴ [10*]³ Grāmaś=ch=āyam pūrvasyām dīsi rāja-prativa(ba)d-īha-
 21 purushair=vishaya-pradhāna-purushaiś=cha dṛiṣṭa-sīm-ā-
 22 rōpita-śil-āvachchhinnaḥ | dakṣiṇasyām=api dīsi tai-
 23 r=dṛi[ṣṭa]-sīmā-samārōpita-śilā-vichchhinnaḥ | paśchi-

Second Plate ; Second Side

- 24 mataḥ Tuṇḍariḍhiṅgā-sīmā-vichchhinnaḥ | utta-

¹ This *t* is final, not conjoined with the following *pu*.

² Metre : *Sragdharā*.

³ Metre : *Anuṣṭubh*.

⁴ This means : " The village-lord, however, should every year present the king with a pair of garments as a token of respect for the king". The village-lord here undoubtedly refers to the donee, as the village granted was to be entirely his personal property. There is nothing unusual in Brahmins or priests making presents of shawls, etc., accompanied with their blessings, to the ruling chiefs, but to make a stipulation of that nature in a charter as is done in the present instance, strikes as something very uncommon and revolting to the orthodox idea. Such a thing, so far as I know, is not met with in any other grant from Orissa or elsewhere. Still, I may observe that in the Orissa feudatory States there is a custom prevalent to this day, which requires every Brahmin holding rent-free land under a copper-plate grant to present the ruler with one rupee, a cocoanut and a sacred thread (*upavīta*). Formerly that was done on the Orissa new-year day, but now it is done at any time in the year. The non-presentation of the last two items is generally tolerated, but the rupee is realised even through legal procedure. The headman entrusted with the collection of these presents is called *Pānigrāhī* who enjoys the largest share of the land in a Brahmin village (*sāsana*). This custom seems to be a vestige of the one spoken of in the present record. [It may be added that in some later inscriptions from Chambā (*Antiquities of Chamba State*, Part II, under publication), the Brahmin donees are likewise asked to pay certain annual tribute to the ruler. From the Jungrāṭ plate of Bhōtavarman (c. A. D. 1397-1436), for instance, we learn that the grantee was required to supply the king, presumably every year, with four pieces of elephants' rugs.—B. C. C.]

- 25 ratō diśi Mahānady-arddha-srōtaḥ-simā-vichchhinna-
 26 ḥ || ēvaṃ chatuḥ-simā-parichchhinnō-yaṃ=asmad-**Bhañja-vamśē**
 27 yē maṇḍal-ādhikāriṇō bhaviṣhyanti tair=avaśyaṃ yathāvat
 28 paripālaniyaḥ || tathā ch=āsminn=arthē maharshibhir=udāhṛitaṃ śā-
 29 straṃ smaranti | Va(Ba)hubhir=vasudhā dattā rājabhiḥ Sagar-ādibhiḥ |
 30 yasya yasya yadā bhūmis=tasya tasya tadā phalaṃ(lam) || [11*]¹ Mā bhūd=aphala=
 31 śaṅkā yaḥ para-datt=ēti pārthivāḥ | sva=dattāt=phaṇam=ādhikyaṃ para-da-
 32 tt-ānupālānē || [12*] Gām=ēkāṃ svarṇam=ēkam=vā bhūmēr=apy=araddham=aṅgu-
 33 laṃ(lam) | haran=narakam=āpnōti yāvad=āhūta-saṃplavaḥ || [13*]¹ Sva-dattāṃ para-

Third Plate

- 34 dattāṃ vā yō harēta vasundharāṃ(rām) | kra(kṛi)mir=bhūtaḥ sa viśṭhā-
 35 yāṃ pitṛibhiḥ saha pachyatē | (||) [14*]¹ Bhūmim yaḥ pratigrihṇāti yaś=cha bhū-
 36 mim prayachchhati | ubhau tau puṇya-karmāṇau niyatau svarga-gāminau [15*]¹ kiñ=
 cha |
 37 Mama va[m*]śē parī(ri)kshīṇē yaḥ kaśchin=nṛpatir=bhavēt | tasy=āhaṃ pāda-la=
 38 gnō=smi mama dattāṃ na lōpayēd=iti(d[|| 16*] iti) || 0 ||¹ Vakaisiṃg-āvasthitau | para-
 39 ma-vaishṇava-samasta-praśasty-alamkṛita-mahāmāṇḍalēśvara-śrī-Sa-
 40 lōṇabhamjadēvasya pravarddhamāna-vijaya-rājyē **saptavimśati-**
 41 **tamē samvatsarē** Phālguna-śukla-trayōdasyāṃ(śyām).....² || 0 ||
 42 likhitam=idam tāma(mra)śāsanam=iti ||

No. 39.—A FRAGMENTARY INSCRIPTION OF KING MALAYAVARMAN

BY PROF. A. S. ALTEKAR, BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY

The inscription, which is here being edited for the first time, has been engraved on a stone fragment, which was lying with an overseer of the P. W. D. of the Kotah State, posted at Mongrol. When I visited this place in 1936 during the course of my archæological explorations organised by the state authorities, the overseer was good enough to show me the inscribed piece lying with him. He could not say from where it was obtained, but it is obvious that it could not have been from a place far away from Mongrol. The stone fragment is very irregular in shape. Its breadth varies from five to ten inches, and its height from two to six inches. It is at present preserved in the office of the State Historian, Kotah.

¹ Metre : *Anuṣṭubh*.

² These two letters, which were probably *mīti*, are cancelled.

Letters of nine lines are visible on the stone ; of these the first is too fragmentary to permit any intelligent reading. The existence of a tenth line can be inferred from the slight traces of the tops of two of its letters that can be seen below the ninth line. The original line of the inscription was longer than the longest line preserved on the stone, but how much longer it was we cannot say. Nor can we make any conjecture as to how many lines the record originally contained.

The inscription has been very neatly engraved and the characters are the Nāgarī characters of the 13th century A. D. The language is Sanskrit and the record is, so far as the preserved portion shows, composed in verse. The composer was a good master of the ornate style of poetry, which was popular in contemporary times.

To judge from the fragments preserved, it would appear that the inscription contained the eulogy of a king named **Malayavarman**. His name appears thrice in the preserved portion, in ll. 2, 3 and 7, though in slightly varying forms. The pedigree of the king and the name of his house are not to be found in the present fragment, but there can be no doubt that king Malayavarman of our record is to be identified with the ruler of the same name belonging to the **feudatory Pratihāra family ruling at Gwalior**, who is known to us from his own plate found at Kurēṭhā in Gwalior State, dated Vikrama Saṃvat 1277, and from that of his brother Nṛivarman, found at the same place and dated Vikrama Saṃvat 1304.¹ It is unfortunate that both these records should still remain unpublished ; we have only their brief summaries given by Dr. Bhandarkar in the *Progress Report. A. S. W. C.*, 1915-16, p. 59. From these it appears that king Malayavarman belonged to the Pratihāra family ruling at Gwalior, that his grandfather was Pratāpasimha and father Vighraha. His mother was Lālhaṇadēvī, daughter of the Chāhamāna king Kēlhaṇadēva of Nāḍōl. He had a younger brother named Nṛivarman. The identification of king Malayavarman of our record with the Pratihāra king mentioned in the above two records is based upon two grounds. Firstly, the palaeography of our record shows that it may have belonged to the 13th century A. D. Secondly, Mongrol, where this inscribed stone was recovered, is only about 100 miles from Gwalior, which was under the rule of the Pratihāra kings Malayavarman and Nṛivarman. It may further be pointed out that we do not yet know of any other king, named Malayavarman, ruling in this part of the country during the 12th or the 13th century A.D.

The Malayavarman of our record is further to be identified with the king of the same name, whose coins have been published by Cunningham in his *Coins of Medieval India* at p. 92 and Plate X. These coins have the crude figure of a horseman on one side and the king's name, written in three lines, on the other. The coins are rather unique, because after the king's name, they also give the year of their issue. Saṃvat 1280 and [12]83 are the dates supplied by coins for Malayavarman, and his Kurēṭhā plate was issued in Vikrama Saṃvat 1277. It is thus clear that the Malayavarman of the coins is identical with the Malayavarman of the Kurēṭhā plate, as proved conclusively by their dates ; our Malayavarman can be no different personage. It may be added that the coins of Malayavarman are found at Gwalior, Jhansi and Narwar, which are not far distant from Kotah State, where this inscription was found.

We shall now briefly review the contents of the record. Only the letters *-tyatō-* of the first line are visible, but we cannot make out any sense from them. The second line opens with the name of king Malayavarman ; what follows is too fragmentary to be made out. The third line once more mentions the name of the king as one ' in which the word *malaya* precedes the word

¹ Bhandarkar, *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, Nos. 475 and 541.

varma ; the words *chēlō mama* occurring at its beginning cannot be confidently construed. The beginning of the fourth line can be definitely restored as [*yadī*] *yaṁ yaśaḥ* ; it obviously referred to the king's fame. We are told that its constant proclamation stunned people into deafness and raised tears of joy in their eyes, as described in the remaining part of the line. The next three lines seem to refer to the marriage of the king. In l. 5 apparently the hope is expressed that a certain lady may ascend the bed of dalliance of the king. In l. 6 there is a reference to a *brahmachārī* ; it was probably the smoke of the sacrifice in his marriage which blinded the eyes of the damsels moving in the sky, as stated in the remaining portion of the line. The term *ēnām* of the next line (l. 7), which is placed in close juxtaposition with king Malaya, probably refers to the bride, the marriage with whom was described in the previous line. L. 8 refers to a world-conquering warrior, who was killed, obviously by the hero of the record. The conquests (*jītāni*) mentioned in the next line must also be attributed to him. It is unfortunate that the portions of our record which mentioned the name of the enemy killed by Malayavarman and, gave further details of his conquest, should not have been preserved in the fragment now available. But from the data supplied by the Kurēṭhā plate of king Malayavarman and the accounts of the Muslim historians, we can well infer as to what may have been described in this part of the record.

Qutbu-d-din Aibak had captured the fort of Gwalior from the Pratihāras in 1196 A. D. The Kurēṭhā plate of Malayavarman claims that this fort was recaptured by the king from the Muslims,¹ and the Muslim historians also admit that in the confusion that followed the death of Aibak, the Hindus were able to recapture the fort and retain it in their possession till it was stormed by Iltutmish in 1232 A. D.² It is probably this exploit of king Malayavarman that is referred to in ll. 8 and 9 of our record. We are told that the opponent of Malayavarman was killed. It would appear that the Muslim general, who was in charge of the fort of Gwalior, died fighting when he lost the fort to king Malayavarman. The word *jītāni* (conquests), which alone is preserved in the next line, obviously referred to the further achievements of our hero.

What remains of the record makes it fairly clear that it was a very important historical record, giving the Hindu version of the recapture of Gwalior. It is a pity that only a fragment of it should have been found.

TEXT.³

1 . . त्वतो

2 श्रीमलयवर्मणः । रज्जुतेर्ष्वनु[तौ] य . .

3 च चेती मम मलयपुरी वर्मस(सं)प्रक्षितीन्द्रो(न्द्रो)⁴

4 [यदी]यं यशः । शृण्वन्नेव पुनः पुनर्व्व(र्व्व)धिरतां धत्ते च हर्षानु[भिः] ।⁵

5 तस्मिं हि सः । लीलातल्पमसौ तवैव हि पुनर्मूर् ..

¹ PRAS. W. C., 1915-8, p. 59.

² Cunningham, A. S. R., Vol. II, p. 379.

³ From an ink-impression.

⁴ Metre: *Śragdharā*.

⁵ Metre: *Śārdūlavikīṛṇita*.

- 6 स त्र(त्र)ह्यचारी । धूमसक्रेम्ब(म्ब)रचरवध्वा(वा)यवर्धं वि¹ . . .
 7 . ी नो हरिः । अय्येनां मलयचित्तीम्बर² . . .
 8 ... विश्वविजयी नामावशेषीकृतः । कु . . .
 9 . . . जितानि . . .
 10

No. 40—A COPPER-PLATE GRANT OF SILAHARA CHHADVAIDEVA

By PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A., AND M.G. DIKSHIT, B.A.

This grant was first brought to notice by the late Mr. R. D. Banerji in the *Progress Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, Western Circle*, for 1919-20, pp. 55-6. No information is available about its original find-spot. It was in the collection of the late Mr. Gerson Da Cunha and was purchased by the Trustees of the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, in 1919. It has since been preserved in that Museum. In the aforementioned report Mr. Banerji has given a brief and, in some respects, incorrect account of the grant, but it has nowhere been critically edited so far.³ In view of its historical importance, we edit it here with the kind permission of the authorities of the Prince of Wales Museum, which we secured through the good offices of Mr. G. R. Gyani, M.A., Curator of the Archaeological Section of the Museum.

The grant is engraved on three copper-plates, of which the first and the third bear writing on one side only and the second on both the sides. The plates measure about 7·4" broad and 6" high. Their total weight is 175 tolas. At the centre of the top of each plate there is a hole⁴ 5" in diameter for the ring which originally held all the plates together, but no ring or seal has yet been found. The inscription contains 76 lines of writing, of which twenty are written on the inner side of the first plate, twenty-one and twenty on the first and the second side respectively of the second plate and the remaining fifteen on the inner side of the third plate. The writing is throughout in an excellent state of preservation.

The characters are of the Nāgarī alphabet resembling those of the Sinda prince Adityavarman's grant dated Śaka 887⁵. Like the latter record, the present grant is written in a cursive hand. The technical execution is very bad as the record has throughout been written and engraved in a most negligent manner. Several letters, being very crudely and imperfectly formed, are changed quite out of recognition. There are, besides, mistakes of orthography, omissions of letters, and words and in two places (*viz.*, in lines 20 and 21) of nearly half a verse. As Mr. Banerji

¹ Metre : *Mandākrāntā*.

² Metre : *Śardūlavikrīḍita*.

³ Dr. Altekar has cited two passages from it and discussed some historical information contained in it in his *Rāshtrakūṭas and Their Times*, pp. 106 and 109, but he has not included it in his list of Silāhara inscriptions in the *Ind. Cul.*, Vol. II, pp. 430 ff.

⁴ Banerji's statement that the copper-plates were not joined together as there is no hole in any one of them is incorrect.

⁵ Above, Vol. XXV, pp. 164 ff.

has remarked, these defects make the task of the decipherer none too enviable. In the genealogical portion which is in verse, the metre and the context often help him to make a lucky guess, but these aids also fail him when he has to read the formal portion, especially that which contains place-names. The subjoined transcript, therefore, shows, notwithstanding our best attempts, some lacunæ and uncertain readings, but nothing of historical interest has, we hope, been left undeciphered. The language is Sanskrit and the record is written partly in verse and partly in prose. The initial genealogical portion in lines 1-39 is in verse. Then follows the formal portion in prose in lines 39-61. The usual benedictive and imprecatory verses occur in lines 62-74. The record finally closes with a sentence in prose, mentioning the royal sanction of the grant. As shown below, the present inscription records a grant by a **Śilāhāra** prince of North Koṅkaṇ, but the draft of the genealogical portion used here is altogether different from that of the later grants of the Northern Śilāhāras. Curious as it might appear, however, it has one hemistich and one complete verse¹ in common with the Khārēpāṭa plates dated Śaka 930 of the Śilāhāra Raṭṭarāja who ruled over South Koṅkaṇ. As regards orthography, we may point out that the vowel *ri* is used for *ri* as in *trilōkī*, l. 6; the consonant preceding and following *r* is doubled as in *puttr̥ṣ-*, l. 8; *tarppit-*, l. 3; *v* is throughout used for *b* and the final *n* is in some places wrongly changed to *anusvāra*, see *bhagavām*, l. 31.

The inscription is one of the Śilāhāra Mahāsāmanta **Chhadvaidēva**² of North Koṅkaṇ. The object of it is to record that Chhadvaidēva executed the grant which had been made by the illustrious Vajjadādēva³, son of the illustrious Goggi, who, as shown below, was Chhadvaidēva's elder brother and predecessor on the throne. It seems that the grant though promised by Vajjada I had not been reduced to writing during his lifetime. Lines 75-6 tell us that on coming to know of it, Chhadvaidēva granted the present charter recording the religious gift (*dharmadāya*⁴) without any alterations. The grant was of some land situated in the eastern part of the village Sālanaka⁵ in the *vishaya* of Pāṇāda.⁶ It was bounded on the east by the boundary of Manchakapallī, on the south by the road leading to Vakōlā and some salty land, on the west by a ditch and on the north by the junction of two streams. The grant was made on the occasion of a lunar eclipse. The donee was the Brāhmaṇa Chādādēva⁷ of the Kāśyapa *gōtra* who was a student of the Rīgvēda and was then residing at Janhupura.⁸

¹ The first hemistich of verse 7 of the present record appears as the first half of verse 3 in the Khārēpāṭa plates, while verse 11 which describes Kṛishṇa III occurs in the same context as verse 6 in the latter grant. See above, Vol. III, p. 298.

² The name of this prince occurs four times (not twice as said by Banerji), viz., in verses 16 and 25 in the metrical portion and in lines 42 and 75 in the prose portion. In the first two cases its reading is not quite certain owing to the extremely cursive nature of the letters, but in the last two cases the reading is undoubted. The form must have been *Chhadaya* in v. 25, *Chhadvai* in all other cases.

³ Owing to the carelessness of the drafter of the record the text in l. 49 seems to convey that Chhadvaidēva himself made the grant. Lines 74 and 75, however, make it clear that it had already been made by Vajjada (I) and that Chhadvaidēva only caused it to be recorded on the copper-plates.

⁴ Banerji seems to have read *dharmō=yaṁ* (instead of *dharmadāyō=yaṁ*) in ll. 74-5. He doubtfully translated it as 'this law'.

⁵ Banerji gives the name of the village as Salaprāka in one place and as Salapaka in another. The name probably occurred in two places, viz., in lines 44-5 and 57-8, but the reading in the latter place is uncertain.

⁶ Banerji read the name of the *vishaya* as Mālāda, but the impression before us certainly reads Pāṇāda.

⁷ The name is clearly Chādādēva, not Chādādēva as read by Banerji.

⁸ According to Banerji the donee was a *Brahmachārīn* of the Vajasanāyā (branch of the Yajurveda), but the text in lines 54-5 seems to read *vahṛīcha-sa-vrahmachārīnē*.

The inscription is not dated and in the absence of the necessary details the lunar eclipse mentioned in it cannot be verified. But as shown below, Chhadvaidēva was a feudatory of the Rāshtrakūṭa Emperor Kṛishṇa III. As the latter is known to have reigned from A. D. 939 to A. D. 967,¹ the record under discussion can be assigned to the middle of the 10th century A. D. It may be noted in this connection that the Bhādāna grant of Chhadvaidēva's nephew Aparājita, who apparently succeeded him is dated Śaka 919 (A. D. 987). As stated above, the characters of the present grant resemble those of the Sinda Ādityavarman's grant which is dated Śaka 887 and therefore both the grants belong to the same period.

The inscription opens with two *maṅgala-ślōkas* in praise of Viṣṇu and Śiva,² the second of which usually occurs in the beginning of Rāshtrakūṭa records. The inscription then proceeds to give the genealogy of the Rāshtrakūṭas³ to whom the Northern Śilāhāras owed allegiance. After mentioning such mythological and legendary ancestors as the moon, Budha, Purūras, Āyu, Yayāti and Yadu, the inscription introduces the Rāshtrakūṭa family in verse 6. The next verse mentions the following rulers : Dantidurga ; his uncle, Kṛishṇarāja (I) ; Gōvinda (II) ; Nirupama (Dhruva) ; his son Jagattuṅga (i. e., Gōvinda III) ; his son Amōghavarsha (I) ; his son Akālavarsha (i. e., Kṛishṇa II) and his grandson Indra (III). Verse 8 states that Indra III's brother Amōghavarsha (III)⁴ completely eradicated the former's son Gōjjiga (i. e., Gōvinda IV) who had acted unjustly and ruled the earth so as to please Śiva. It will be noticed that the present record omits the name of Amōghavarsha II, the elder son of Indra III, who preceded Gōvinda IV. Again, it does not state what injustice Gōvinda IV had committed. It has been suggested that the injustice was in respect of Gōvinda's elder brother Amōghavarsha II⁵. From the Bhādāna grant we know that the latter ruled only for a year. The Deoli and Karhād plates of Kṛishṇa III state that Amōghavarsha went to heaven soon after his father as if out of love for him. The premature death of this prince is regarded as suspicious. It has been suggested that it was brought about or at least hastened by Gōvinda IV and confirmation of this is sought in the following verse which occurs in Gōvinda's own Sāngli⁶ and Cambay⁷ grants :—

सामर्थ्यं सति निन्दिता प्रविहिता नैवायजे क्रूरता
 व(व)भुस्त्रीगमनादिभिः कुचरितैरावर्जितं नाययः ।
 शौचाशौचपराङ्मुखं न च भिया पैशाचमङ्गीकृतं
 त्वागिनासमसाहसं च भुवने यः साहसाङ्गीभवत् ॥

which means " Ignominious cruelty was not practised (*by him*) with regard to (*his*) elder brother, (*though he*) had the power ; (*he*) did not obtain infamy by evil courses such as (*illicit*) inter-course with the wife of (*his*) brother ; (*he*) did not through fear resort to diabolical conduct which is

¹ See Altekar's *Rāshtrakūṭas*, etc., pp. 115 and 122, and above, Vol. XXI, p. 262.

² Banerji's statement that both the verses are devoted to the praise of Śiva and Umā is not quite correct.

³ Three other Śilāhāra grants are known to have opened with the genealogies of the Rāshtrakūṭas, viz., the Khārēpāṭa plates of Raṭṭarāja (above, Vol. III, pp. 297 ff.), the Bhādāna grant of Aparājita (*ibid.*, pp. 267 ff.), and another grant of the same king which has not yet been published. See Vaidya, *History of Mediaeval Hindu India*, Vol. II, pp. 349 ff.

⁴ Banerji's statement that Amōghavarsha mentioned in v.8 is Amōghavarsha II and that he was uprooted in battle by Gōvinda IV is absolutely wrong.

⁵ Altekar, *Rāshtrakūṭas*, etc., p. 106.

⁶ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 249.

⁷ Above, Vol. VII, p. 36.

indifferent to what is pure and impure ; (but) by (his) munificence and unparalleled heroic deeds he became Sāhasāṅka in the world"¹. This is supposed to be a case of protesting too much and it is believed that Gōvinda IV, if not actually caused, at least hastened the death of his elder brother, had incestuous connection with his wife and usurped his throne.

But one would like to have stronger evidence to prove these serious charges. The aforementioned verse institutes a comparison between Gōvinda IV and the Gupta king Sāhasāṅka (i.e., Chandragupta II). It states that though Gōvinda IV resembled Chandragupta II in munificence and daring, he did none of the heinous crimes of which the latter was guilty. We must remember that a similar comparison occurs in the Sañjān plates² of Amōghavarsha I. He is described therein as feeling ashamed when he was compared with a Gupta prince known for liberality (evidently Chandragupta II-Vikramāditya) as the latter had killed his brother and married his wife. In the *Kāvyamīmāṃsā* of Rājaśekhara again we have a comparison between Rāmagupta and Kārttikēya who has elsewhere³ been shown to be the Gurjara-Pratihāra king Mahipāla I of Kanauj. It seems that it was the practice of court-poets to institute such comparisons between their patrons and well-known princes of the Gupta dynasty and to show the superiority of the former to the latter. It would be unwise and unjust to see unintended insinuations in such comparisons. Besides, we have no other reference to the alleged evil actions of Gōvinda IV in any records of his successors, some of whom had little love for him and therefore would not have refrained from mentioning them if they had been true. From other inscriptions⁴ we know that Amōghavarsha III fomented a rebellion among the feudatories of Gōvinda IV, which cost the latter his life. The present record also states that Amōghavarsha completely uprooted Gōvinda IV. It is therefore noteworthy that the Deoli and Karhād plates of Amōghavarsha's son Kṛishṇa III refer to Gōvinda's dissolute life⁵, but are silent about these charges. On the other hand, they intimate that Amōghavarsha II died a natural, though premature, death. In the absence of further evidence, therefore, we are not inclined to hold Gōvinda IV guilty of the murder of his elder brother.

To the glorification of Amōghavarsha III the present inscription devotes two more verses. Verse 9 states that with the water of his coronation Amōghavarsha washed away his taints as well as his wealth and greatly purified his self. Verse 10 states that he surpassed the god of love in handsome form and that, as he had three white royal umbrellas, he was as it were waited upon by the moon in three forms, mistaking him for Mahēśa (Śiva). Amōghavarsha's handsome form is described in the Bhādāna grant⁶ of Aparājita also, but that he had three royal umbrellas indicative of his suzerainty over three countries is stated nowhere else. The record under discussion does not specifically mention these countries, but the Deoli plates⁷ of Amōghavarsha's son Kṛishṇa III, which were issued soon after his accession, mention some victories which he had gained while he was a crown-prince. We learn that Kṛishṇa killed Rachhyāmalla (Rāchamalla),

¹ This translation is practically the same as Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar's (above, Vol. VII, p. 44), except that *bandhu* has been rendered as 'a brother' and not as 'a relative' in view of the information supplied by the recently published extracts from the *Dēvī-Chandragupta*.

² Above, Vol. XVIII, p. 248.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LXII, pp. 201 ff.

⁴ Above, Vol. XIII, pp. 328 ff.

⁵ Even these statements appear to be suspicious. They seem to imply that Gōvinda died of consumption as a result of his dissolute life. But the present record and the *Vikramārjunavijaya* of Pampa show that he lost his life in a rebellion of his feudatories fomented by Amōghavarsha III and his son Kṛishṇa III.

⁶ Above, Vol. III, p. 271.

⁷ *Ibid.*, Vol. V, pp. 192 ff. The verses occur also in the Karhād plates of the same king which were issued sometime later.

the ruler of Gaṅgapāṭi or Gaṅgavāḍi and gave his kingdom to Bhūtārya (or Būtuga) and that he defeated and reduced to a sad condition the Pallava Anṇiga. Bhūtārya and Anṇiga are known from other records¹ also as the rulers of Gaṅgavāḍi and Nalambavāḍi respectively. They were contemporaries of Amōghavarsha III. Gaṅgavāḍi and Nalambavāḍi were thus included in the Rāshtrakūṭa Empire during the time of Amōghavarsha III, though they were actually governed by his feudatories. These were evidently two of the three countries implied in v. 10. The third country must of course have been Kuntala, the home-province of the Rāshtrakūṭas.

Kṛishṇa III who succeeded Amōghavarsha III is eulogised in five verses (11-15), but the description is merely conventional. He is said to have made several new grants and restored old ones and to have overthrown four kinds of feudatories². The genealogy of Rāshtrakūṭa rulers stops with Kṛishṇa III, during whose time the present grant was evidently made.

With verse 16 begins the description of the Śilāhāra dynasty. The dynastic name appears here in the form Śilāra. Verse 17 mentions the Vidyādhara Jīmūtavāhana, the son of Jīmūtakētu, who offered his body to save serpents. His descendants assumed the form of Śilāra in order to give protection to the ocean when it was harrassed by the arrow of (Jāmadagnya, i.e., Paraśurāma)³. Since then the princes of this dynasty came to be known as Śilāras. This is a novel interpretation of the dynastic name which, so far as we know, occurs nowhere else. The text does not make clear what is meant by Śilāra and no Sanskrit dictionary gives this word. The dynastic name sometimes appears in the form Śilāhāra and is then usually taken to mean 'food on a rock' with reference to the story of the Vidyādhara Jīmūtavāhana who sat on a rock to serve as food to Garuḍa.

Verses 20-25 name the following Śilāhāra princes : Kapardin (I) ; his son Pulaśakti ; his son Kapardin (II) ; his son Vappuvana ; his son Jhañjha ; his younger brother Gōggi ; his son Vajjaḍa (I)⁴ ; and finally, his younger brother Chhadvaya (or Chhadvaideva), the donor of the present plates. The description of all these princes is quite conventional and altogether devoid of historical interest. About Chhadvaideva we are told that he bore the title *Mahāsāmanta* and attained the right to the five great (musical) sounds.

The importance of the present inscription lies in this that it has brought to notice a prince of the Śilāhāra dynasty who was not known from any other source. The Bhādāna plates dated Śaka 919, which were issued by Vajjaḍa I's son Aparājita, give the same genealogy as the record before us, but they omit the name of Chhadvaideva. This prince is not again mentioned in any of the numerous later records of the Śilāhāras. The reason for this omission is not clear. It cannot be said that Chhadvaideva's name was omitted because he was a collateral ; for, as Banerji has already pointed out, Śilāhāra records invariably mention Jhañjha, though his progeny did not reign, and he was succeeded by his brother Gōggi. Another instance is that of Arikēsarin

¹ See e. g., above, Vol. IV, p. 351, and Vol. X, pp. 54 ff.

² The Karhād plates of Kṛishṇa III also mention four kinds of feudatories, but they are said to have received different kinds of treatment at his hands. See above, Vol. IV, p. 285. In verse 15 of the present inscription there is an interesting comparison of Kṛishṇa III with a physician, based on a play on the words *maṇḍalīn*, *narēndra*, etc., but the verse is not completely legible.

³ The *Brahmaṇḍa Purāṇa* (III, 57, vv. 47 ff) graphically describes the consternation in the ocean caused by Paraśurāma's arrow. It further states that Varuṇa, the lord of the ocean, ultimately submitted to Paraśurāma and withdrew the ocean from the Sūrpāraka-kshētra. The *Purāṇa* does not of course make any mention of the Śilāras.

⁴ Banerji's statement that the name of Vajjaḍadēva is omitted in the genealogy of the Śilāra family in the second plate is not correct ; for his name occurs in the second half of verse 24, though in a corrupt form.

alias Kēsirāja who ascended the throne after his brother Vajjaḍa II. He was succeeded by his nephew Chhittarājadēva, the son of Vajjaḍa II, but his name is not omitted in the later records¹ of the Śilāhāras. Chhadvaidēva again was not probably a usurper; for, in the present record, he not only states that the grant had been promised by his elder brother and was only executed by himself, but also pays a tribute of praise to him in verse 24. Nor does he seem to have been only a regent during the minority of his nephew Aparājita; for he claims the title *Mahāsāmanta* for himself and does not even mention his nephew, the *de jure* ruler of the kingdom. The record may therefore be suspected to be spurious. Apart from the absence of the date, however, there does not seem to be any cause for suspicion. As stated before, the characters, though very carelessly written and engraved, are of the age to which the record refers itself. There are no discrepancies in the description of the Rāshtrakūṭa and Śilāhāra genealogies which occur in verses 7-15 and 20-25 respectively. On the other hand, the grant furnishes certain details which, though not met with in other records, are not inconsistent with their evidence. It is of course true that the draft of the genealogical and formal portions of the grant differs from that used in later Śilāhāra grants, but that is because no particular draft had yet become stereotyped in the Śilāhāra secretariat. Even in the Bhādāna grant of Aparājita, which was made some years later, the stereotyped draft has not been used. There does not therefore appear any reason why the present grant should not be regarded as genuine.

This is the earliest known copper-plate grant of the Śilāhāra dynasty of North Koṅkaṇ. Some earlier inscriptions of this dynasty have of course been discovered at Kānhēri², but they are all inscribed on stone. The last of them which belongs to the reign of Kapardin II is dated Śaka 799. The next inscriptional date of this dynasty so far known was Śaka 919, furnished by the Bhādāna grant of Aparājita. There was thus a gap of 120 years during which we had no record of this dynasty. The present grant though undated belongs to this period. Like the Kānhēri stone inscriptions, it belongs to a time when the Rāshtrakūṭas held imperial sway over North Koṅkaṇ. Like the present record two other Śilāhāra grants³ open with a Rāshtrakūṭa genealogy; viz. the Bhādāna grant of Aparājita, dated Śaka 919, and the Khārēpāṭan grant of Baṭṭarāja, dated Śaka 930, but the Rāshtrakūṭas had then been overthrown by Tailapa, the founder of the Later Chālukya dynasty. The present record is thus of special interest as it shows what position the Śilāhāras enjoyed during the heyday of Rāshtrakūṭa paramountcy. As Mr. Banerji has already pointed out, the record under discussion shows that the Śilāhāras did not then assume such high-sounding titles as *Mahāmaṇḍalēśvara*, *Tagarapura-paramēśvara*, *Abhimāna-mahōdadhi*, *Gaṇḍakandarpa*, which we find in the later records of Aparājita, Chhittarāja and others. They had to content themselves with the modest title of *Mahāsāmanta*⁴ which we notice also in the earlier inscriptions of Pulaśakti and Kapardin II.

In the absence of any information about the original findspot of the present plates, it is difficult to locate definitely the places mentioned in it. But we tentatively suggest the following identifications. Pāpāḍa, the headquarters of the Pāpāḍa-vishaya may be Poinād about 8 miles

¹ See, for instance, the Bhāṇḍūp plates of Chhittarāja (above, Vol. XII, pp. 250 ff.); the Prince of Wales Museum plates of Mummuni, *ibid.*, Vol. XXV, pp. 53 ff., etc.

² *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, pp. 133 ff.

³ A third of the same type, dated Śaka 915, which belongs to the reign of Aparājita was discovered some years ago, but is now untraceable. See C. V. Vaidya, *History of Medieval Hindu India*, Vol. II, pp. 349 ff. and Altekar, *Rāshtrakūṭas*, etc., p. 110. See below, p. 288, f.n. 1.

⁴ In two Kānhēri inscriptions the title is *Mahāsāmantaśekhara*. In the third no title is mentioned at all. It may be noted, however, that none of these is an official record of the Śilāhāras.

north by east of Alibāg, in the Kolābā District of the Bombay Presidency. The village Sālānaka in which the donated land was situated may be Sālinde which lies about 6 miles south by east of Poinād.¹ Mañchakapalli is possibly represented by Pālē about a mile to the north of Sālinde. Vākōla may be Kolēti which lies about 4 miles to the south. The map shows two small streams joining each other to the north of Sālinde as stated in the present grant. Janhupura where the donee was residing we are unable to identify.

TEXT

[Metres : Verses 1-5, 18, 19, 27-29 and 31-33 *Anuṣṭubh* ; vv. 6 and 21 *Upajāti* ; vv. 7 and 13 *Sragdharā* ; vv. 8, 9, 12, 16, 24 and 25 *Āryā* ; v. 10 *Upēndravajrā* ; vv. 11, 14, 17 and 20 *Vasantatilakā* ; v. 15 *Śārdūlavikrīḍita* ; vv. 22 and 23 *Gīti* ; v. 26 *Indravajrā* ; v. 30 *Śālini* ; and v. 34 *Pushpitāgrā*.]

First Plate

- 1 श्री³ [†*] श्रीर्वर्द्धता नवीद्यानराजीवायतनेत्रया⁴ । शिवः सहीमया चास्ता राजी-
वायतनेत्रया ॥[१]*]
- 2 स वीश्याद्देधसा धाम यन्नाभिकमलं कृतं(तम्) । [ह]रख वस्व कान्तोदुकलय
कमलंकृतम् ॥[२]*]
- 3 मीचादचेरभूङ्गुरिसुधां[हः]⁵ तर्पितामरः । चंद्रमा जगदानन्दकन्दकन्दलनचमः ॥[३]*]
- 4 तस्यांगजीजनि वु(वु)घो विवु(वु)धाघीशपूजितः । सुतः पुरुरवास्तस्य तस्याप्यायुरजायत
॥[४]*]
- 5 एवमच्छिन्नसंतानजायमानेषु राजसु । ययातिरभवत्तस्य सूर्यदुरभूदिह ॥[५]*]
- 6 तत्तस्तुलोकी⁶तिलकायमानो वंशो यदूनामभवत्पृथिव्यां(व्याम्) । श्रीराष्ट्रकूटापरनामधेयो
- 7 [य]न्नाभिलेभे हरिरा[ल]जस्य ॥[६]*] तन्नासीदन्तिदुर्गः प्रभुरपि च ततः क[ण]-
राजः पि-
- 8 द्रव्यस्तस्माद्गोविंदराजस्तदनु ति(नि)रुपमोऽस्माज्जगत्तुंगदेवः । पुन्नोस्वामोघव-

¹ After this article was sent to the press we noticed Mr. A. S. Gadre's account of 'two unpublished copper-plate inscriptions of the Śilāhāra Aparājita, dated Śaka 915. (*Proceedings and Transactions of the Ninth All-India Oriental Conference*, p. 880.) These inscriptions were found at Muruṇḍa-Janjirā in the Kolābā District of the Bombay Presidency, and are now preserved in the Baroda Museum. One of them registers the grant of an orchard in the village Sālānaka lying in the Pānāḍa district. These places are evidently identical with those of the same names mentioned in the present grant of Chhadvaidēva, which we have located in the Kolābā District. This account has unexpectedly confirmed our readings of the place-names and their identifications proposed above. The two grants have since been published by Mr. Gadre in *Important Inscriptions from the Baroda State*, Vol. I, pp. 35 f.

² From ink-impressions.


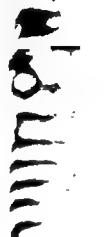






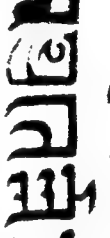









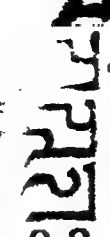
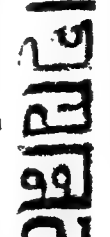
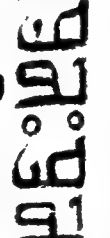
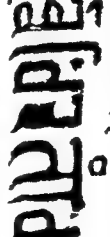
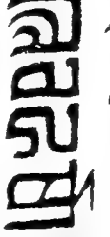






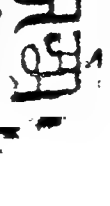

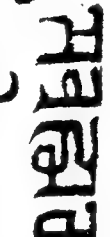


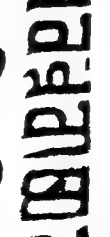


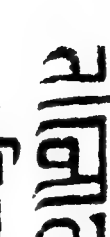
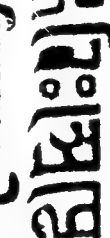

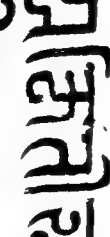


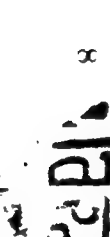





















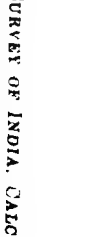






³ Expressed by a symbol.

⁴ The expression means 'who resorts to (Viśva) whose eyes are long like a fresh garden-lotus'.

⁵ Read *-sudh-āmitus-tarppit-*.

⁶ Read *tatas-trilōki-*.

१ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 २ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ३ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ४ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ५ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ६ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ७ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ८ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ९ मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 १० मङ्गलाय नमः ॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

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[illegible]

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24 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ भावि किं न ॥ ॐ नमो
 २६ ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 २८ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ३० ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ३२ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

34 दत्तं दत्तं दत्तं दत्तं दत्तं ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ३६ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ३८ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ४० ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥
 ४२ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

SEAL



(TWICE ACTUAL SIZE).

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SEAL.



(from a photograph).

- 9 [षः] सकलगुणनिधिः¹ तस्य चाकालवशः(षः) ।² तन्नप्ता श्रीद्राजः प्रथितपृथु[य*]शाः साव्व-
 10 भौमः प्रजातः ॥[७॥*] श्रीमात(न)मोघव[र्षो] आतास्य सुत(तं) समूलमुन्मूल्य । गोज्जिग-
 मन्या-
 11 यकृतं सा(सोऽ)मोघं [स्व]य³मशात्पृथ्वी(ध्वीम्) ॥[८॥*] अभि[षे]कजलेन समं तपस्वि[षु]⁴
 श्रेयसे स-
 12 मुच्छु[त्य]⁵ । येन धनानीव मलान⁶नीयतात्मा परां शुद्धिं(द्धिम्) ॥[९॥*] सितात-
 पत्र[र]यमध्यव-
 13 र्त्ता रराज यो रूपजितेक्षुधन्वा । उपास्यमानः शरदिदुनेव त्तिरूपतामेत्य महे[श]-
 14 बुध्या⁷ ॥[१०॥*] शंभोः षडा[न]न इवात्त्रिमुनेरिवेद् रामो यथा दशरथस्य ◡ —⁸
 जयं[तः] ।
 15 तस्यांगजोपि चतुरंबु(बु)धिमेखलाया भर्त्ता भुवः समभवद्भुवि कृष्णराजः ॥[११॥*] सत्य-
 16 पि र[त्ना]भरणे जानानोपि प्रसाधनविशेष(षम्) । यो वहति भुजेन सदा कुव-
 लय⁹माश्च-
 17 र्यकं लोके ॥[१२॥*] लभ्या नागेंद्रकर्णतिशयचपलतां यौवनस्यायुषश्च ।¹⁰ यां(यान्)
 देवव्र[त]स्य-
 18 [दायां]¹¹ लुलुपुरवनिपाः पूर्वजा विस्मरन्तः । संसारासारभा[वं] मनसि कलय-
 19 ता येत(न) तेन्येपि मुक्ता ।¹² दत्तास्तेभा(भ्य)श्च¹³ गात्वः¹³ शिवभवनजुषां कोटिशः कांचनं
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¹ Here *sandhi* has not been observed.

² This *danda* is superfluous.

³ Dr. Altekar reads *s-āmōghamayam* = . See his *Rāshṭrakūtas*, etc., p. 106, n. 59. Perhaps *sāmōghapriyam* = is the intended reading. *Amōgha* is a name of Śiva.

⁴ Dr. Altekar doubtfully reads *tapas* = *chiyuh*, *ibid.*, p. 109, n. 68. The context requires a reading like *tapasvibhiḥ*.

⁵ The context requires a reading like *samunmriyja*.

⁶ Dr. Altekar reads *malād* = but the *aksharas* are clearly as read above.

⁷ Read *buddhyā*.

⁸ The two *aksharas* lost here were *Harē* as seen in verse 3 of the Khārēpātan grant of Raṭṭarāia; above,

Vol. III, p. 298.

⁹ There is a play on this word which means (1) a blue lotus, and (2) the orb of the earth.

¹⁰ This *danda* is superfluous.

¹¹ Read *-brahmadāyāl* = *lukupur* = .

¹² The context requires a reading like = *tēshān* = *cha*.

¹³ Perhaps *gāvaḥ* is intended.

- 20 ॥[१३॥*] तस्मिन्प्रशा^१सति महीं समहीधरेद्रा(न्द्रां) सि[ङ्ह]^२द्युतो चतुरदत्त(न्व)र्दनिद्यकांचो[म्] ।
ग[त्वा ?] हि^३

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 21 'तानतिज[वा]न्मायाविनो घा[त]का[न्] चंडान्मंडलिनो [वि]लुप्तसमयानु-
22 द्यु(द्ध)त्य [संत्रासयन् ?] । — — — ◡ ◡ मंत्रधर्मरभसान् दंडेन पा[षंडि?]-
23 [कान्?] [सा]मंतांश्चतुरोपि येन दलता का[मं] नरेंद्रायितं(तम्) ॥[१५॥*] तस्मिन्(न्)
शास-
24 ति पृथ्वीं [कृ]ष्णनरेन्द्रे(न्ने) नरादि(धि)पः श्रीमान्(न्) [१*] शी[ला]रामलवंशे सकल-
गुणालंकृते . . .^५
25 —॥[१६॥*] विद्याधर[:*] [स्व]चरिताधरितान्यकीर्त्तिर्जी[मू]त[के]नुतनयो नयविक्रमाद्यः [१*]
26 जी[मू]तबाहन इति प्र[यि]तः पृथि[व्यां] श्रीमा[न्*] स्वकायमुपदाय सु^६(?)दञ्चता-
27 हीन् ॥[१७॥*] [गन्धर्व ?] ◡ ◡ — — ◡ [भ्रु]त्वाहिञ्च विवि [पू](प्रि)यं(यम्) ।
गुणानुरागा[ज्जन्मा ?]धं [पू]-
28 र्वजा [यम]शिथियत्(न्) ॥[१८॥*] जामदग्न्यशरात्र(त्त)[स्तः] शीलारच्छयना तदा ।
[साग][रो*]
29 रक्षित[स्ते]श्च प्रापुस्तन्नाम पू[र्व]जाः ॥[१९॥*] शीलारनाम्नि तट[द्व]ययेन^७ देवः
30 सा[क्षा]दभा^८ निजभुजाजितकामदेवः । [आ]रातिसिधु(न्धु)मुपम[ध्य] करे क-
31 पद्मी लक्ष्मीम[धत्त] सत(तु)कांनण^९कंकणेन ॥[२०॥*] त[स्यात्म]जो [यः] पुलशक्तिना[मा*]
32 [पृथ]पमः पार्थसमानकीर्त्तिः । [आसी]त्प्र(त्पू)[यि]व्या(व्यां) प्रथितप्रतापः समस्त-
33 सामन्तनांघ्रि(घ्रि)[भूष]ः ॥[२१॥*] तस्याप्यपरः श्रीमान्कपद्दिनामाभवताभा^{१०} नृप-

^१ The *akshara* *sa* which was at first omitted is written below the line.

^२ Read *siṃha*.

^३ The further portion of this fourteenth verse has been omitted inadvertently.

^४ The first seven *aksharas* of this verse have been omitted.

^५ Perhaps the name of the donor *Chhadrai* occurred at the end of this verse. Read=*bhavach*=*Chhadrai* [in which case the metre of this verse will be *Giti*.—B. C. C.] The *akshara* at the beginning of the next line has two *mātrās* at the top.

^६ The context requires a reading like *amūchat*=*āhīn*, but it would involve a hiatus.

^७ The reading is uncertain here. Besides, one *akshara* is wanting.

^८ Read *sākshād*=*babharu*.

^९ Read *kīñchana*.

^{१०} Read *bharat*=*śūlō*.

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- 34 तिः । वप्पुवनोति(मि)तश[क्ति]: शासित[भूम]डलोभवत्त[स्मा]त् ।[१२२॥*] भंभः सन्न-
लग-
- 35 णोघं: संपहो(स्रो) गीयते जगत्यनिशं(शम्) । आखंडल इव तस्मादभवत्त[ग्रामिके*]
- 36 गुणैः [वि]दितः¹ ।[१२३॥*] तस्याप्यनुजो जयवा[न्*] गोगिनपो द्विगुणभंभ इति ग-
- 37 दितः । [तेना मात्तंडोर्वा ?]²त[स्मा]दपि कीर्त्ति[संप]न्नः ।[१२४॥*] तस्याप्यनुजः
धी[माद्य ?]³
- 38 [दय]नूपो व(ब)लिनिभोभवत्त्यागात् । महाहरेरिव रिपवो ध्वस्ता ह्यः(ह्या)संश्च
- 39 ति'नाम्नं व ॥[२५॥*] स चानेकघोटका[रू]ढचार(?)हा(चा)टभटविनि[जि]तप्रतिपक्षसीम-
- 40 तिनीनयनवारि[षा]रा[प्रवा]ह[धौ]तमलिनीकृतकरो⁴ [आ ?]रातिप[शो]व[गुंठ]-
- 41 [वि]जयलक्ष्मीकल्याणपरंपराभ्युदयः समधिगत[पं]चम[हा]शब्द(ब्द)महा-

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 42 सा[मं]ता(तः) [श्री]⁵च्छद्वंदेवः सर्वानिव यथासंब(ब)ध्यमानका[न्] शौलिककगौल्वि(लिम)कचौ-
- 43 रे(रो)[द्ध]रणिकान् कीर्त्तिता⁷भविष्यद्वत्तमानकांश्च [भू*]भृद्वं(द्वं)[धू]न(न्) चरादीन् [प्र]ति[दि]च्छ(श्य)
- 44 चितकपयंश्च(?)⁸ समनुवो(वो)घयत्येवं य[था] पाणाड⁹विषयांतःपाति¹⁰साल[ण]-
- 45 कप्रान्ने प्राच्यां दिशि¹¹ यस्य चाघाटनानि [पू]र्वतो [मं]चकपल्ले(ल्ली)सीमा । दक्षिणतो
- 46 व[को]लावि[ध्या]¹² लव[ण]वरिका च । पश्चिमतः ¹³[तपाह्व्यतिकारिसंकानिवा?]ग-

¹ Read *gunair=viditah*.

² The text is very corrupt here. One would expect a reading like *tasy=āpi Vajraḍv=bbūt*.

³ Read *śrīmānś=Chhadaya*.

⁴ This *akshara* is superfluous.

⁵ Read *-kara*.

⁶ For the form of *chhā* here, see the same *akshara* in *Silāra-chchhadmanā* in l. 28 above.

⁷ The usual expression is *kīrtit-ākīrtitān*.

⁸ [Could the intended reading be *pratinivāsinah kṛishakāmś=cha ?* B. C. C.]

⁹ Banerji read the name of the *vishaya* as *Mālāda*, but the *aksharas* are clearly as read above.

¹⁰ Banerji gives the name of this village as *Salapṛāka* in his account of the plates and as *Salapaka* in the heading of the section ; see *P. R. A. S. I. W. C.* for 1919-20, p. 55. But both the readings are *incorrect*.

¹¹ Here some word denoting the object of the gift (such as *kshētra-trayam* which occurs below in l. 57) is required.

¹² Read *-vīthi*.

¹³ We are not certain about the reading of these eleven *aksharas*.

- 47 तैवं च । उत्तरतो भिरिकाद्वयसंगमः । एवं चतुराघाट[नो]पल[क्षि]तं स-
- 48 वृक्षमालाकुलं पोढकस[मे]तं गंहि[रा]तटे कारं[जा]वृ[क्ष]समेततल्लगटि[त](?)-
- 49 निवातक्षेत्रं मयेदं जलधरधारानिपात[मि¹]तं [निवाता]वनोद्यतति[डि][द्व*]द्व[द्व]व-
- 50 विनाशजीवितमवलोक्य जललवलोलतरलतरं चासारं सं[सा]र[म]वेत्य
- 51 पुत्रपौत्रान्व[यो]पभोग्यमाचंद्रार्का[र्ण]वक्षितिसमकालीनतया पित्रोरा[त्स*]-
- 52 न[श्चै]हिक्का[मु]ष्मिकपुण्यय[शो]भिवृद्ध[ये] विधुप्र[प्रा]सेन तनंता²(?)योग[प्र]-
- 53 [ह]णपर्वणि [ग्र]गारि[कायां]तियो³ ह[स्तो]दकपूष्णं(व्यं) [स]कलसुरासुराभ्य[च्छिं]-
- 54 तचरण[कमल]—⁴ श्रीमच्छिवभट्टारकं [प्रपूज्य ?] [का]श्यपसगोत्र[व(ब)]द्वृच[स]-
- 55 [व(ब)]ह्यचारि[णे*] वेदवेदां[ग]वेदान्त[पुराणमीमांसास्मृ]तिन्याय(या)भिन्न[जन्तु]पु-
- 56 रनिवासिने चाडादेव[भ]ट्टाय ⁵वेसद्यवबलचरकानिहोत्रकतुक्कि-
- 57 या[द्यु]पसर्पणा[त्यं] ग्रा[मम]ध्य(व्ये) ⁶प्रलयबाव[मा]न(ने)न श्रीक्षततु[यं]⁷ स[श ?]⁸
- 58 कगा(प्रा)[मान्तः*]पातिपानपोढकसहितं ता[च्छ][शास]नेन प्रदत्तं(तम्) । तदागमि-
- 59 नृपतिभि[श्च] भूदाना⁹ पुण्यफलमेवेत्य धर्म[दा]योयं
- 60 प्रतिपालना(नी)यः । यतः सामान्येयं [भू]दान[पालन ?]पुण्य-
- 61 फलावाप्तिः । तथा चोक्तं भगव[ता] वेदव्यासेन [व्या]से[न] [।*]

Third Plate.

- 62 अ[ग्ने]रप[त्यं] प्रथमं सुवर्णं भू[व्यं]णी [सू]र्यसुताश्च गावः । साक-
- 63 [त्र]यं तेन भवेधि(द्वि) दत्तं यः कांचनं गं(गां) च महीं च दद्यात् ।[१२६॥*]
[यस्मा¹⁰]दाद(दा)-

¹ The reading of this and the next seven *aksharas* is uncertain.

² These three *aksharas* are uncertain.

³ This *tithi* occurs when the fourteenth of the dark fortnight of a month falls on a Tuesday.

⁴ One *akshara* is illegible here. [The reading looks like *-charaṇa-nakha-[ma]nim*.—N.L.R.]

⁵ Read *vaiśvadeva-bali*.

⁶ We are not certain about the reading of these eight *aksharas*. Perhaps some expression like *lad-vishaya-mānēna* denoting the intended measure is required.

⁷ Perhaps *kshētra-trayaṁ* is meant, but line 49 mentions only one *kshētra*.

⁸ Perhaps the intended reading is *Sālanaka* as in lines 44-45 above.

⁹ Five *aksharas* are illegible here. The context requires some expression like *bhūdānasya sāmānyam*.

¹⁰ These five *aksharas* are doubtful.

- 64 य सौवर्ण(र्ण) वसुधारा(धी)शसानय¹[ः] । गव(वा)[ञ्चोद्धारको] यत्र तत्र गच्छति [भू]-
 65 [मि]दाः ।[। २७॥*] कल्पकोटि[स]हस्राणि [क]ल्पकोटि[शता]नि च । निवस्ते^२ पुरुषो
 66 लोके क्ष[क्षि][ति]दानं ददाति यः ।[। २८॥*] व(ब)हुभिर्व्व[सु]धा भु[क्ता] रा[ज]भिः
 सगरादिभिः ।
 67 य[स्य] यस्य य[दा] भू[मि]स्तस्य तस्य तदा फलं(लम्) ।[। २९॥*] [सर्व्वानि]तान्भाविनः
 पायि(यि)वेंद्रा-
 68 न्भू[यो] [भूयो] यावते रा[म]भ[द्र]ः । [सामा]न्योयं ष[मं]सेतुनृ(नृ)पाणां पा(का)ले काले पा-
 69 लनी[यो] भवद्भिः ।[। ३०॥*] ष[ष्टि]व[षष]हस्राणि [स्व]र्गे ति[ष्ठ]ति भूमिदः । आच्छेत्ता
 चा-
 70 नू[मं]ता च तान्येव नरकं(के) वसेत् ।[। ३१॥*] स्वदत्तं(त्तां) परदत्तां वा यो हरेत
 वसुंधरां(राम्) ।
 71 [स] वि[ष्टा]यां कृमिर्भूत्वा कृ[मि]भिः सह पच्यते ।[। ३२॥*] गामेकां सुवर्णमेकं
 भूमे-
 72 रप्येकमंगुलं(लम्) । हरश्चरकमाप्नोति [या]त(व)दाह(भू)तसंप्लवं(वम्) ।[। ३३॥*] इति
 कमल-
 73 दलां(बु)वि(वि)न्दुलोलां श्रियमयलो[क्य] म[नु]ष्यजीवितं च । [अ]तिविमलम-
 74 [नो]भिरात्मनीनं(नं) हि पु[रुषं] परकीर्तयो विलोप्याः ॥[३४*॥] ध[र्म]दा[यो]-
 75 यं श्रीगो[गि]सु[त]श्रीव[र्ज] (ज्ज)डदेववि[हि]तः शू(श्रु)तः । यथैवं तथा श्रीच्छद्दे-
 76 वः [श]सनं ददाति ॥

NO. 41.—DATE OF MATHURA PEDESTAL INSCRIPTION OF KANISHKA.

BY PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A., NAGPUR.

This inscription was discovered at Mathurā by Rai Bahadur Pandit Radha Krishna. It is incised on the pedestal of a broken statue of the Buddha. It has been edited before, with a photo-lithograph, by Rai Bahadur D. R. Sahni in this journal, above, Vol. XIX, pp. 96 f. It is proposed to discuss the date of this epigraph here in view of its importance for the Kushāṇa period of Indian history.

¹ Read *mānavah*.² The correct form would be *nirasati*, but it would not suit the metre. Read *ramatī*.

The date of this inscription was read by Sahni as *Mahārāja-Dēvaputrasya Kanishkasya samvatsarē 10 4 Pausa-māsa-divasē 10*, i.e., on the 10th day of the month of Pausa in the year 14 of *Mahārāja Dēvaputra Kanishka*. Sahni referred this inscription to the reign of Kanishka, the great founder of the Kushāna era. His reading of the date and the consequent attribution of the record have not generally been called in question.¹ But even a cursory glance at the photo-lithograph which accompanies his article will show that the date has been misread. As in other Kushāna records, it is expressed in numerical symbols. The year of the date is shown by two symbols, the second of which is undoubtedly 4 as read by Sahni. The first symbol,² however, does not stand for 10. This will be quite clear from the fact that it is not identical with the symbol for 10 used further on in the same line to denote the day. I read this symbol as 50, so that the date of the record is 50 4, i.e., the year 54.

In support of my reading I call attention to the form of the symbol which occurs in another Mathurā inscription of the same year,³ edited by Bühler. There the form is the same as in the present inscription with only this difference that, whereas the symbol appears quite vertical in the former, it is slanting in the latter. It is a cursive form of the usual symbol for 50 which consists of an arc open to the right, with both the ends turned inside. See, for instance, the form of the symbol in the Ginjā inscription of Bhīmasēna, dated in the year 52.⁴ In both the aforementioned Mathurā inscriptions of the year 54, the lower and upper curves of the symbol are turned into loops. An intermediate form is shown by the symbol used in another

Symbols for 50 used in the Brāhmī records of Mathurā.



inscription found at Mathurā itself, which is dated in the year 50.⁵ In this only the lower curve has been turned into a loop. The value of this symbol is clearly shown by two inscriptions⁶ from Mathurā dated in the years 52 and 57 where the date is given both in words and in numerical symbols.

The Mathurā pedestal inscription is thus dated on the 10th day of the month Pausa in the year 54 during the reign of *Mahārāja Dēvaputra Kanishka*.⁷ As already remarked by Sahni,

¹ It has of course been pointed out by some that the characters of this inscription are too developed for the reign of the great Emperor Kanishka, the founder of the Kushāna era ; for, it shows the cursive forms of *m*, *s* and *h* which are believed to have become current in the Gupta age. But the difficulty is sought to be removed by one scholar by referring the date to the Kalachuri-Chēdi era of A. D. 248-49 (See *Ind. Cult.*, Vol. IV, p. 413). Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar has accepted the reading of the date given by Sahni (above, Vol. XXI, p. 2).

² See above, Vol. XIX, pl. facing p. 97 and No. 4 of the symbols reproduced here.

³ Above, Vol. I, p. 391, No. XXI, and plate. See No. 3 of the symbols reproduced here. Bühler at first read this symbol as 80, but in view of another inscription from Mathurā (above, Vol. II, p. 210, No. 38, and plate), in which the year 57 is given both in words and numerical symbols, he took it to be equivalent to 50. Vincent Smith read the same symbol as 40, but, as Lüders has shown, it undoubtedly stands for 50. See *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXXIII, p. 105.

⁴ See No. 1 of the symbols reproduced here.

⁵ Above, Vol. II, p. 203, No. XVII, and pl. See No. 2 of the symbols reproduced here.

⁶ Above, Vol. II, p. 203, No. XVIII, and p. 210, No. XXXVIII, and plates.

⁷ This will also explain why the characters of this inscription are somewhat more developed than those in the records of Kanishka I. As a matter of fact, the looped *s* occurs throughout in a Mathurā Brāhmī inscription of the year 25 as shown by Bühler (above, Vol. I, pp. 372-73). *M* with an unjoined middle and cursive *h* occurs in an inscription of Śaka 127 at Jasdan (Kāthiāwād) as pointed out by D. R. Bhandarkar (above, Vol. XXI, pp. 2-3).

this is a peculiar date, for it is recorded in a Hindu solar month instead of in seasons as in other Brāhmī inscriptions from Mathurā. This should not, however, cause any suspicion, for we have now another Kushāṇa Brāhmī inscription from Mathurā which also has a peculiar date. The latter is recorded in the Macedonian month Gurpiya.¹

This new reading of the date of the Mathurā pedestal inscription presents a problem to which we may now turn. As stated before, the inscription refers itself to the reign of *Mahārāja Dēvaputra* Kanishka. The reign of this Kanishka overlaps that of Huvishka. We have had till now records of Kanishka dated in the years 2-23,² those of Vāsishka dated in the years 24 and 28³ and those of Huvishka dated in the years 28-60.⁴ It has therefore been supposed that Kanishka was succeeded by Vāsishka in the year 24 and the latter by Huvishka in the year 28. Huvishka is known to have ruled at least till the year 60. How is it then that this *Mahārāja Dēvaputra* Kanishka appears suddenly at Mathurā in the year 54? The discovery of the Ārā inscription dated in the year 41 which referred itself to the reign of *Mahārāja, Rājātirāja, Dēvaputra, Kaśsara* Kanishka, the son of Vājḥeshka, had also presented a similar difficulty; for its date also fell in the reign of Huvishka. Two explanations of this sudden appearance of Kanishka in the year 41 were given. According to R. D. Banerji who indentified Kanishka of the Ārā inscription with the great founder of the Kushāṇa era, 'the only explanation of the synchronism of Kanishka and Huvishka, . . . is that, after the first ten years of Kanishka's reign, Huvishka was left in charge of Indian affairs with full imperial titles, while the former attended to the long war in the frontier and in trying to reclaim the lost provinces.'⁵ This explanation was adopted by Mr. Vincent Smith in the third edition of his *Early History of India*. As an inscription of Vāsishka dated in the year 24 was subsequently found, Smith suggested the following reconciliation of the known data:—'Vāsishka and Huvishka were sons of Kanishka, who both acted in succession as Viceroys of Upper India while their father was warring beyond the mountains. Vāsishka, of whom no coins are known, seems to have predeceased his father, who was succeeded in his whole empire by Huvishka.'⁶ Dr. Lüders, on the other hand, suggested that Kanishka of the Ārā inscription who calls himself the son of Vājḥeshka was different from the homonymous great Emperor. He was the latter's grandson, being the son of Vāsishka (called Vajheshka in the Ārā inscription) who is known to have ruled at least from the year 24 to the year 28. He thus described the course of events:—'Kanishka was followed by Vāsishka between the years 11 and 24.'⁷ After Vāsishka's death, which occurred probably soon after Sam. 28, there was a division of the empire. Kanishka II took possession of the northern portion of the kingdom. In India proper, Huvishka made himself king. The reign of Kanishka II endured at least as far as Sam. 41, the date of our (i.e., Ārā) inscription. But before Sam. 52 Huvishka must have recovered the authority of the northern portion of the empire, for in this year he is mentioned as king in the Kharōshthī inscription which was found at Wardak to the south west of Kābul'.⁸ This theory was adopted by Dr. Sten Konow. He pointed out that Huvishka did not make himself independent before the year 40, for until then he is simply styled *Mahārāja Dēvaputra*. Soon after that

¹ Above, Vol. XXI, pp. 55 ff.

² The latest date of Kanishka is the year 23 recorded in a stone inscription in the Curzon Museum of Archaeology, Mathurā. *An. Rep., A. S. I.*, for 1920-21, p. 35. It is very desirable that this record should be published.

³ Lüders' *List of Brahmi Inscriptions*, Nos. 149a and 161.

⁴ Above, Vol. XXI, pp. 51 ff. and Lüders' *List*, etc., No. 56.

⁵ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXXVII, p. 59.

⁶ V. A. Smith. *Early History of India* (Third Ed.), p. 270.

⁷ We now know that Kanishka I continued to rule till the year 23; see note 2 above.

⁸ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XLII, p. 135.

he declared his independence and began to issue coins in his own name. 'We cannot tell,' says Dr. Konow, 'whether Kanishka II survived this new departure of Huvishka by more than a year, or if it was brought about by rumours of his approaching death.'¹

The date of the Mathurā pedestal inscription throws fresh light on these problems. In the first place, the proximity of its date to that of the Ārā inscription shows that the Kanishkas mentioned in the two records are identical. Secondly, it is clear that this Kanishka must be distinguished from the great Emperor Kanishka who founded the Kushāna era. Before the discovery of this date 54, it was possible to argue that the year 41 of the Ārā inscription was of the reign of Kanishka I, for a reign of 41 years is not very unlikely. But it is improbable, though not impossible, that Kanishka I ruled for 54 years. This Kanishka of the Ārā and Mathurā pedestal inscriptions may therefore be called Kanishka II.² As conjectured by Lüders, Vajheshka is probably identical with Vāsishka³ who may have been a son of Kanishka I and who is known to have ruled from the year 24 to the year 28. Kanishka II seems thus to have been a grandson of Kanishka I, for in India grandsons are often named after their grandfathers.

As stated before, the reigns of Huvishka and Kanishka II are overlapping. So long as only one inscription of Kanishka II was known, it was possible to explain this by supposing that Kanishka II ruled over the northern and Huvishka over the southern parts of the great Kushāna empire; for, the inscription of Kanishka II was found at Ārā near Peshāwar, while the inscriptions of Huvishka were found in the vicinity of Mathurā and Aligarh in the United Provinces.⁴ But now this inscription of Kanishka II comes from the same part of the country over which Huvishka was ruling. And what is more, its date (year 54) falls just midway between the years 50 and 58 recorded in inscriptions of the reign of Huvishka⁵ found at Mathurā itself. It is again noteworthy that in all these three inscriptions of the years 50, 54 and 58 found at Mathurā, both Huvishka and Kanishka II bear the ordinary title of *Mahārāja*.⁶ In the Ārā inscription dated in the year 41, Kanishka II bears the imperial titles *Rājātirāja* and *Kāisara*, while in the Wardak inscription dated in the year 50, Huvishka also bears the imperial title *Rājātirāja*. It will be noticed that the aforementioned Mathurā inscriptions of both Huvishka and Kanishka mention no such imperial titles in connection with either of them. To reconcile these apparently contradictory data, it may be suggested that there was a civil war in the Kushāna Empire after the death of Vāsishka. At first Kanishka II was victorious and he ruled as Emperor till the year 41. Some time between 41 and 50 he suffered reverses at the hands of Huvishka who reduced him to a subordinate position. Soon thereafter both of them were defeated by some one else and made to assume the subordinate rank of *Mahārāja*.

¹ *C. I. I.*, Vol. II, pt. i., p. lxxxii.

² Lüders thought that the use of the patronymic in the Ārā inscription was intended to distinguish Kanishka II from Kanishka I (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XLII, p. 135). The argument now loses its force, because in the present inscription which belongs to the reign of the same king Kanishka II no such patronymic has been used.

³ [Vāsishka is undoubtedly identical with Vajheshka, Vajhushka of inscriptions and Jushka of the *Rājatarāṅgiṇī*. Sten Konow has already shown that *j*, *jh* and *s* are attempts at rendering the voiced *s*. See *C. I. I.*, Vol. II, pt. i., p. 163—Ed.]

⁴ An inscription of the reign of Huvishka dated in the year 45 from the collection of Pandit Bhagwanlal was found in the Library of the Bombay University, but its original find-spot is not known. *J. Bom. Br. R. A. S.*, Vol. XX, pp. 269 ff.

⁵ Lüders' *List*, etc., Nos. 51 and 42: above, Vol. XIV, p. 138.

⁶ In two of these (*viz.*, in those of the years 50 and 54) the title *Dēvapūra* is used in addition to *Mahārāja(a)*.

Such a reconstruction of Kushāṇa history, however, does not seem probable; for, the titles mentioned in these private records may be merely matters of accident. We notice the same thing in the case of Kanishka I. The records of the years 2 and 3 of his reign mention only the title *Mahārāja*.¹ Even this title is absent in the subsequent record of the year 5.² Then we find the title *Rājātirāja* in the records of the years 7, 8 and 11,³ but it is absent again in those of the years 9 and 10.⁴ We cannot therefore draw any conclusion from the absence of the imperial titles in the records of Huvishka and Kanishka II.

How then are we to explain this strange phenomenon of both Huvishka and Kanishka II ruling at Mathurā in the years 50-58? I think the only theory which can explain it is that of the joint rule of these kings. In the Andhau inscription of Śaka 52,⁵ we have a very similar case of Chashṭana and his grandson Rudradāman ruling jointly in Mālwa and Kāthiāwād.⁶ Another analogous instance is that of the Rāshtrakūṭa princes Karka and his younger brother Gōvinda who were ruling in Gujarāt jointly from Śaka 732 to Śaka 748.⁷ Kanishka and Huvishka may similarly have ruled jointly at least during the period from the year 41 to the year 54.

No. 42.—DATES OF SOME EARLY KINGS OF KAUSAMBI.

By PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A., NAGPUR.

From several stone inscriptions discovered at Kosam (ancient Kauśāmbī) and Giñjā in the United Provinces and Bāndhogarh in the Rewah State, we have come to know the names of some ancient rulers of Kauśāmbī. The records are dated in an era, the beginning of which is still to be determined. It is proposed to examine the question in this article and to suggest a solution.

The records at Kosam and Giñjā, which have been published, may be chronologically arranged as follows. Their date portions are also given below for ready reference.

(1) Giñjā inscription of *Mahārāja* Bhīmasēna (year 52)⁸—*Mahārājasya Śrī-Bhīmasēnasya sa[ṁ]vatsarē 50 2 gīmha-pakshē 4 divasa 10 2.*

¹ Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 212; and Lüders' *List*, etc., No. 925.

Ibid., No. 18.

² *Ibid.*, No. 21; above, Vol. XVII, p. 11 and *C. I. I.*, Vol. II, pt. i, pp. 138 ff.

³ Lüders' *List*, etc., Nos. 22 and 23.

⁴ Above, Vol. XVI, pp. 23 ff.

⁵ For a discussion of this problem, see *J. R. A. S.* for 1926, pp. 659 ff.

⁷ Karka's grants are dated in Śaka 734, 738, 743 and 748 and those of his younger brother Gōvinda in Śaka 732, 735, and 749. In his grants Gōvinda does not say that he made them with the permission of his elder brother. Again he pays in them a tribute to Karka which makes the theory of a civil war and usurpation of the kingdom by Gōvinda unlikely. As the villages granted by these brothers are in the same part of the country, nay, in some cases are situated within a few miles of one another, the theory that there was a division of the kingdom between them is also untenable. Dr. Altekar has suggested that Gōvinda was governing Gujarāt as a deputy for his elder brother while the latter was acting as a regent for the boy king Amōghavarsha I, but the discovery of Gōvinda's grant dated Śaka 732 has shown that Gōvinda was holding Gujarāt even before the death of the Rāshtrakūṭa Emperor Gōvinda III. We must therefore suppose that the two brothers were ruling jointly in Gujarāt.

⁸ Cunningham, *A.S.R.* Vol. XXI, Pl. XXX, and above, Vol. III, Pl. facing p. 306.

(2) Kosam inscription of *Mahārāja* Bhadramagha (year 81)¹—Maharajasya śrī-Bhadramaghasya sa[m*]vatsarē ēkasitē 80 1 grishma-pakshē dvitīyē 2 divasē pañchamē 5.

(3—4) Allahabad Museum (Kosam) inscriptions of *Mahārāja* Bhadramagha (year 87)²—Mahār[ā]jasya śrī-Bhadramaghasya sa[m]vatsarē sapt[ā]sitē 80 7 varsha-paksha tṛtīya 3 divasa 5.

(5) Kosam inscription of *Mahārāja* Bhadramagha (year 88)³—Mahārājasya śrī-Bhadram[aghasya] [sa[m]vatsa]rē 80 8 varsha-paksha 3 divasa 5.

(6) Kosam inscription of *Mahārāja* Vaiśravaṇa (year 107)⁴—[Ma]h[ā]r[ā]jasya śrī-Vaiśravaṇasya sa[m]vatsarē sapt-ōttara-śatimē 100 7 grishma-pakshē saptamē 7 divasē prathamē.

(7) Kosam inscription of *Mahārāja* Śivamagha (date lost)⁵—[Mahā]rajasya śrī-Śivamaghasya sa[m]vatsarē]...[varsha-pakshē] 2 divasē prathamē 1.

(8) Kosam inscription of *Mahārāja* Bhīmavarman (year 130)⁶—Mahārāja-śrī-Bh[i]mavarmanāṁ sa[m]vatsa[rē*] tri[m]ś-ōttara-śatimē 100 30 grishma-pakshē prathamē 1 di[vasē].

(9) Kosam inscription of *Mahārāja* Bhīmavarman (year 139)⁷—Mahar[ā]jasya śrī-Bhīmavarmanāṁ sa[m]va[t*] 100 30 9...2(?) diva 7.

The records found at Bāndhogarh have not yet been published, but from the information occasionally communicated by Dr. N. P. Chakravarti, the Government Epigraphist, we learn that they are records of the reigns of the *Mahārāja* Vāsishṭhiputra Bhīmasēna (year 51) and his son Poṭhasiri (year 86) (? 76) and grandson Bhadadēva (year 90).⁸ Two other small inscriptions discovered at Bāndhogarh record each the construction of a cave by the *Rājan* Vaiśravaṇa,⁹ son of the *Mahāsēnāpati* Bhadrabāla. They are not dated. Two sealings, one of *Rājan* Vāsishṭhiputra Bhīmasēna and the other of *Mahārāja* Gautamiputra Śivamagha were found during excavations at Bhīṭā.¹⁰ They contain among others the devices of the bull and the tree-in-railing, which, as stated below, occur on the coins of the kings of Kauśāmbī. Some coins of Prishṭhaśriya with the same devices were also discovered at Bhīṭā.¹¹ As conjectured by Dr. Motichandra,¹² this Prishṭhaśriya is probably identical with Poṭhasiri of the Bāndhogarh inscription. Again, a hoard of copper coins has recently been discovered at Sāton in the Fatehpur District of U. P. It has been described by Dr. Motichandra.¹³ It contained the coins of Bhadramagha, Vaiśravaṇa, Śivamagha and Bhīmavarman. These coins have the same devices of the bull and the tree-in-railing. Again, Dr. Allan's *Catalogue of Indian Coins in the British Museum (Ancient India)*, pp. 157-58, describes some coins with the legend Jayama[gha*]. It is

¹ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 253 ff., and plate.

² Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 245 ff., and plate.

³ Above, Vol. XVIII, p. 160, and plate. Jayaswal read the date as 86. (*History of India*, 150 A.D.—350 A.D., p. 230.) According to Dr. Konow this inscription is of the same date as Nos. 3 and 4 above.

⁴ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 146 ff., and plate.

⁵ Above, Vol. XVIII, p. 159, and plate.

⁶ *Ind. Cul.*, Vol. III, pp. 177 ff., and plate.

⁷ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, pp. 266 ff., and plate. Dr. D. B. Bhandarkar refers the date of this record to the Chūḍa era (see his *List of Inscriptions of Northern India*, p. 173, n. 3), while Mr. A. Ghosh refers it to the Gupta era (*Ind. Cul.*, Vol. III, pp. 178 ff), both on palaeographic grounds. Its characters do not materially differ from those of other Kosam inscriptions listed here. Its date must therefore be referred to the same reckoning.

⁸ Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 146, n. 2.

⁹ *J. N. S. I.*, Vol. II, p. 101.

¹⁰ *An. Rep. A. S. I.* for 1911-12, p. 51.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 66.

¹² *J. N. S. I.*, Vol. II, p. 99, n. 18.

¹³ *Ibid.*, pp. 95 ff.

not known if this legend is complete, for these coins are not illustrated there. Perhaps it is not, for I saw with Dr. A. S. Altekar some Kauśāmbī coins from the collection of Rai Bahadur B. M. Vyasa, on which the king's name appears to be Vijayamagha. Some of the Kauśāmbī coins found in the excavations at Bhītā had the incomplete legends (i) viya (? ja), (ii) vi- and (iii) yama-¹. They also probably belong to the same king Vijayamagha.

From all this material we can arrange these kings chronologically as follows :—

No.	Name of King.	Title.	Years.	Places where stone records have been found.	Places where sealing was found.	Places where coins were found.
1	Vāsishthputra-Bhīmasēna.	Rājan, Mahārāja.	51, 52	Gūnjā, Bāndhogarh.	Bhītā . .	....
2	Prishthaśriya, son of (1).	(Not known)	86 (? 76) ²	Bāndhogarh .	..	Bhītā.
3	Bhadramagha, son of (2).	Mahārāja. Mahāsēnāpati.	81, 87, 88, 90	Kosam, Bāndhogarh.	..	Fatehpur, Kosam.
4	Vaiśravaṇa, son of (3)	Rājan, Mahārāja.	107	Kosam . .	..	Fatehpur, Kosam.
5	Gautamīputra Śivamagha.	Mahārāja .	(Date lost)	Kosam . .	Bhītā . .	Fatehpur.
6	Bhīmavarman . .	Mahārāja .	130, 139	Kosam . .	..	Fatehpur.
7	Vijayamagha . .	..	..	....	..	Kosam, Bhītā.

The order of succession from Bhīmasēna to Vaiśravaṇa is settled by the relationship these kings bore to one another. I place Śivamagha after Vaiśravaṇa, because the characters of his Kosam record appear to be somewhat more cursive than those of Bhīmasēna's record. Vijayamagha is tentatively placed last of all, because his coins have been found only in the vicinity of Kauśāmbī. These kings held the country from Kosam to Bāndhogarh, a large part of which was included in the ancient Chēdi or Dāhala. It is not definitely known where they had their capital, but it is not unlikely that they ruled from Kauśāmbī, the ancient capital of the Vatsa country, where the records and coins of most of them have been found.

It will be noticed that the known dates of these kings range from the year 51 to the year 139. They evidently refer to one and the same reckoning, but it is nowhere specified. The inscriptions, again, do not mention any contemporary kings and thus afford no definite clue to the period in which these kings flourished.³ We have therefore to examine this question in the light

¹ *An. Rep. A. S. I.* for 1911-12, p. 67.

² I have suggested here that the year 86 found in a record of Prishthaśriya from Bāndhogarh is a mistake for 76, because it overlaps the dates of his son Bhadramagha. After this article had been sent to the press, Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra, in reply to an enquiry in this connection, informed me that as many as five records of the reign of Pothasiri (Prishthaśriya) dated in the year 86 have been discovered at Bāndhogarh and that the reading of the number of the year is decidedly 86, as it is expressed not only in symbols but also in words (*chhāsīte*). He also informs me that there is another inscription pertaining to the reign of the same king, which is dated in the year 87. There is thus no mistake about the reading and the dates undoubtedly overlap. One way of explaining this would be to distinguish between *Mahārāja* Bhadramagha and *Mahāsēnāpati* Bhadrabāla or Bhadadēva (Bhadrādēva) and to suppose that the former was ruling at Kosam and the latter, like his father Prishthaśriya and son Vaiśravaṇa, was holding Bāndhogarh. But as the coins of Prishthaśriya and Vaiśravaṇa have been found at Bhītā, at Kosam and near Fatehpur, it seems that the rule of these kings extended to the Vatsa country in the north. Perhaps Prishthaśriya and his son Bhadramagha or Bhadrabāla were ruling jointly. For similar cases of joint rule in ancient India, see above, p. 297.

³ The *Purāṇas* state that nine kings named Mēgha ruled in Kōsalā which usually denotes modern Chhattisgarh. But no coins or records of the kings of this dynasty have been found there.

of other evidence, more or less indefinite, of palæography, language and the mode of dating adopted in these records and the stratification of the level at which their coins and seals were found.

As regards **palæography** the following peculiarities have been noticed :—

- (1) The medial short *i* is shown by a small curve on the top of a letter as in the Kushāṇa inscriptions. In the Gupta records this curve is brought down much lower on the left of the letter.
- (2) The medial *ē* is generally indicated by a short horizontal stroke to the left as in the Kushāṇa inscriptions. In the Gupta records the *mātrā* is usually placed on the top.
- (3) The medial *ō* is shown by a concave curve as in the Kushāṇa inscriptions. In the Gupta records, the vowel is shown by two *mātrās* turned in opposite directions.
- (4) The right verticals of *g*, *t* and *ś* are of the same length as the left ones. This is a peculiarity of the Kushāṇa records. In the Gupta inscriptions the right verticals of these letters are much elongated.
- (5) *Gh*, *p* and *y* are rectangular as in the Kushāṇa period. In the Gupta period these letters become round and cursive.
- (6) *N* has a curved base as in the Kushāṇa records, but no loop except in the late inscription of Vaiśravaṇa's reign. This letter became looped in the Gupta period.
- (7) *M* and *h* have the later, so-called eastern, forms known from Gupta records, though on the coins of these kings *m* has the archaic shape of the Kushāṇa period.
- (8) *S* appears both in looped and unlooped forms. The unlooped form of it was generally current in the Kushāṇa period and the looped one in the Gupta period.

As regards **language**, these records bear affinity to the Kushāṇa rather than to the Gupta records. They are written in a **mixed dialect** which was current in the Kushāṇa age. Such Prākṛit expressions as *ētāya puruvaya* for *ētasyām pūrvāyām* or *śatimē* for *śatatamē* are used side by side with correct Sanskrit forms. The language of the Gupta records is generally good Sanskrit.

The method of **dating** adopted in these records is slightly different from that of the Kushāṇa records from Mathurā. The dates are recorded in years and seasons, but instead of mentioning the number of months within the seasons as in the Kushāṇa records from Mathurā, they state the number of fortnights like the Sātavāhana records from the Deccan.¹ In North India such season dates were current during the Kushāṇa period, but they seem to have gone out of use in the Gupta age as there is not a single certain date of that age recorded in seasons.²

¹ Lüders' *List of Brahmi Inscriptions*, Nos. 1122-26.

² Mr. R. D. Banerji drew attention to the date of a Mathurā Brāhmī inscription which he took as indicating a compromise between solar month dates and season dates. He read the date as *Vijaya-rājya sam 100 10 3 Kārttika Hēma**nta mā[sa 3] di[va]sa 20 (above, Vol. II, p. 210, and *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXXVII, p. 46). But the facsimile shows that the reading *Hēmanta* is extremely uncertain. Incidentally it may be pointed out that the date of the record appears to be 110, not 113. Mr. A. Ghosh mentions three season dates of the Gupta period, but they too are not certain. Of these the first one, viz., the date of the Kosam inscription of Bhīmavarman (year 139) refers to the same era as those of the other Kosam inscriptions of this dynasty, as shown above. The date of the Mathurā inscription of Chandragupta II is not a season date as shown by Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar. As there was an intercalary month in the Gupta year 61, Dr. Bhandarkar's suggestion that the lost letters of the date were *Āshāḍha-māsē* is quite plausible. As for the date of the Mathurā inscription No. XXXVIII, (above, Vol. II, p. 210), its attribution to the Gupta period rests only on palæographic evidence which is not quite certain. See also *J. R. A. S.* for 1903, p. 11. In South India the custom of using season dates lingered much longer; for we have some records of the Vākātakas and the Viśnukūṇḍins of the fifth and sixth centuries A. D., which have season dates. See above, Vol. III, p. 262; Vol. IV, p. 197; Vol. XVII, p. 339, etc.

As regards the evidence of stratification, it may be pointed out that the sealings of Bhīmasēna and Śivamagha were found during excavations at Bhīṭā at the level of the lower floor of Nāga-dēva's house all the finds of which belong to the Kushāṇa period.¹ According to Sir John Marshall the house was deserted, owing to some catastrophe, in the Kushāṇa period.

Having thus stated the nature of the evidence available for determining the age of these records, let us proceed to examine the theories advanced so far.

(I) Rai Bahadur D. R. Sahni referred the date of the Kosam stone inscription of Bhādrāmagha to the **Gupta era**. The years 51—139 of these records would, on this supposition, correspond to A.D. 370—458. This theory does not appear plausible; for, though these inscriptions exhibit some forms of letters (such as *m* with unjoined middle, the cursive *h* and the looped *s*) which are believed to have become current in the Gupta period, the general appearance of their characters is **pre-Gupta**. The evidence of language and the manner of dating is also against this theory as stated above.

(II) The second theory, which has been advocated by Dr. Jayaswal, and Messrs. N. G. Majumder, A. Ghosh and Krishna Deva, refers these dates to the **Chēdi era**. It is pointed out that these Kosam records show greater maturity than is evident in the Kushāṇa, without approximating to the Gupta in cursiveness.² They thus belong to the period of transition between the Kushāṇa and the Gupta. The system of dating and the mixed nature of the language are also believed to point to the same period. These records are, therefore, assigned to 'some time from the third to the fourth century A.D.'. The only era in this period to which the dates could be referred is the Chēdi era of A.D. 248-49.

This theory has much plausibility and the fact that some of these records come from that part of the country which in ancient times was known as Chēdi lends colour to it. The origin of the Chēdi era is still uncertain. The earliest certain date³ of this era so far known is the year 207 recorded in the Pārḍi plates of the Traikūṭaka Dahrasēna. The era was current in Gujarāt, Koṅkan and northern Mahārāshṭra down to the beginning of the eighth century A.D. It is found used in the records of the Traikūṭakas, Kalachuris, Western Chālukyas and their feudatories. Later on it was taken by the Kalachuris to the United Provinces and Chhattīsgarh when they founded their kingdoms there. But no dates of the first two centuries of this era have been found till now. The discovery of these Kosam records which apparently belong to the third or fourth century A. D. seemed to supply the early dates of the era which had been missing so far.

This theory does not, however, appear to be convincing; for, if these dates are referred to the Chēdi era, Bhādrāmagha, Vaiśravaṇa and Bhīmavarman become the contemporaries of the Gupta Emperors, Chandragupta I, Samudragupta and Chandragupta II. That the Guptas extended their sway to Allahābād and the Ganges-Jumna Doab soon after their rise appears clear from an oft-quoted statement in the *Purāṇas*.⁴ If these rulers of Kauśāmbī (36 miles from Allahabad) were ruling in the fourth century A. D., they must have acknowledged the suzerainty of the Guptas. It seems strange therefore that none of these records mentions the name of any Gupta overlord. The explanation that these are private records will not avail, because even when Vaiśravaṇa records his excavation of a cave at Bāndhogarh he does not name any suzerain.

¹ *An. Rep. A. S. I.* for 1911-12, pp. 34, 51, 66 ff.

² Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 255.

³ The dates of the Uchchakalpa records which are earlier are referred by some to the Chēdi era, but this does not seem to be the correct view. See above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 171 ff.

⁴ *anu-Gaṅgā Prayāgam eha Sāketaṁ Magadhāms=tathā |*

ētān janapadān sarvān bhōkshyantē Gupta-vamśajāh || Pargiter, *Dynasties of the Kali Age*, p. 53.

Secondly, it does not appear credible that the Gupta Emperors allowed these feudatories to strike coins in their own names. The Guptas seemed to have valued highly the Imperial prerogative of issuing their own coinage: for, instead of allowing the coins of the Kushāṇas to circulate in their kingdom, they issued a varied and magnificent coinage of their own. When Chandragupta II exterminated the Western Śaka Satraps and annexed Mālwa and Kāthiāwād he issued fresh silver coins to meet the needs of the people of the newly acquired provinces. It may be urged that the coins of these Kausāmbi kings are all of copper, while no copper coins of Chandragupta I and Samudragupta have yet been found.¹ The first Gupta king whose copper coins have been discovered is Chandragupta II.² Chandragupta I and Samudragupta may therefore have allowed these coins to circulate in their kingdom for the sake of convenience. But this argument does not explain why Bhīma-varman who was a contemporary of Chandragupta II was allowed to strike coins in his own name. From inscriptional records we know of some feudatories of the Guptas, but the coins of none of them have been found. It is extremely unlikely that the Guptas made an exception in the case of these feudatories of Kausāmbi.

(III) The third theory is that these dates refer to the **Kushāṇa era** founded by Kanishka. The palaeographical evidence detailed above shows that these Kosam records must be classed with the Kushāṇa and this has indeed been admitted even by the advocates of the second theory. But they point out that some of the letters, *viz.*, *m*, *s* and *h*, have more developed forms which are usually met with in Gupta records. It is, however, not realized that if these dates are referred to the Chēdi era, the resemblances should be many more and striking; for, Vaiśravaṇa and Bhīma-varman become then the contemporaries of Samudragupta and Chandragupta II. The stone pillar on which Harishēṇa's *praśasti* of Samudragupta is incised is believed to have originally stood at Kausāmbi itself.³ The inscription was incised about A.D. 360,⁴ *i.e.*, somewhat earlier than the inscription of Vaiśravaṇa and much earlier than those of Bhīma-varman. A comparison of Harishēṇa's *praśasti* with the Kosam records will show that its characters are much more developed than those of the latter. It exhibits throughout the looped *n*, *sh* and *s*; the right verticals of *g*, *t* and *ś* are elongated and the letters are generally cursive, instead of being squat and square. In all these respects the letters of the Kosam records, especially those of Bhīma-varman's inscription dated in the year 130, present decidedly early forms approximating those of the Kushāṇa. As for the letters *m*, *s* and *h*, it may be pointed out that the so-called eastern Gupta forms of these occur much earlier than the age of the Guptas and as far west as Mathurā and Jasdān in Kāthiāwād. Bühler pointed out long ago that the looped form of *s* occurs throughout in a Mathurā inscription dated in the year 20 of the era of Kanishka.⁵ Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar has recently drawn attention to the

¹ Allan *Catalogue of Indian Coins, Gupta Dynasties*, p. lxxxvii. Prof. C. J. Brown thinks that Samudragupta did not mint copper coins because in the time of the Guptas, the bazars must have been full of Kushāṇa copper money (*The Coins of India*, p. 42).

² R. D. Banerji states in his *Age of the Imperial Guptas* (p. 214) that he saw two copper coins of Samudragupta. They have not been published.

³ *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, p. 2.

⁴ V. A. Smith, *Early History of India* (third ed.), p. 282. This *praśasti* does not mention Samudragupta's performance of the Aśvamēdha sacrifice. According to Dr. H. R. Dīvekar, the expression *kṛipana-dīn-ānāth-ātura-an-ōddharaṇa-ma(sa)lra-dīksh-ābhyupagata-manasaḥ* in l. 26 indicates the intention of Samudragupta to perform the sacrifice (*Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute*, Vol. VII, p. 165). But this is incorrect. *Saltra-dīkshā* is used there only for a metaphorical description, the figure being *rūpaka*. For an exactly similar idea, see *āpann-ābhaya-saltrēshu dīkshitāḥ khalu Pauravāḥ* in Kālidāsa's *Śakuntala*, Act II, v. 16.

⁵ *Ab., v.*, Vol. I, pp. 372-73.

occurrence of the so-called eastern forms of *m* and *h* in a Western Kshatrapa record of Śaka 127 (A. D. 205).¹ The Gupta forms of these letters were thus not unknown in the second and third centuries A. D.

But it may be objected that these forms occur only sporadically in the aforementioned records of the Kushāṇa period. They do not show that these forms had become current at the time. To prove this we must have some record which definitely belongs to the Kushāṇa period and exhibits all these forms together as in the Kosam inscriptions under consideration. Such a record is not difficult to find. I draw attention to the Mathurā pedestal inscription of the reign of Kanishka.² The characters of this inscription closely resemble those of the Kosam records. They include the so-called Eastern Gupta forms of the letters *m*, *s* and *h*. In other respects, such as the forms of the medial vowels, of *u*, *e*, *śh*, etc., they are akin to other Kushāṇa records, though they are somewhat more cursive. The date of this record should give a clue to the age of the Kosam records under discussion.

This Mathurā inscription refers itself to the reign of *Mahārāja Dīva Putra* Kanishka. It is dated on the 10th day of Pausha in the year 51.³ As shown elsewhere, this Kanishka must be identified with Kanishka II whose Ārā inscription is dated in the year 41. The date 54 must of course be referred to the era started by Kanishka I. The beginning of this era is still uncertain, but most scholars are now in favour of identifying it with the Śaka era of A. D. 78.⁴ In view of the similarity of the characters used in this Mathurā pedestal inscription of the year 54 and the Kosam records of the years 52—139, it seems certain that all these records are dated in the same era, *viz.* the Kushāṇa era founded by Kanishka. And this is but natural; for Kanishka carried his arms as far as Pāṭaliputra in the east. In the south his empire extended at least up to the Narmadā. His era seems to have been current throughout his extensive empire long after his death. Inscriptions dated in it have been found at Sārnāth in the east, Sānchi in the south and Wardak near Kābul in the north-west. Once an era becomes current in a part of the country and the people become accustomed to use it, it continues to be used long after the founder or his family has ceased to rule. The era of Harsha continued to be used long after him, though his empire crumbled to pieces almost immediately after his death. We do not know who founded the so-called Kalachuri-Chēdi era.⁵ But it was used in Gujārāt, Kñokaṇ and Mahārāshṭra for several centuries after the memory of its founder had faded from the public mind. The same thing must have happened in the case of the Kushāṇa era.

It is not known if the Vatsa and Chēdi countries were included in the Kushāṇa Empire during the reign of Huvishka; for, no inscriptions of the king have been found there.⁶ R. D. Banerji conjectured from the absence of Kushāṇa records between the years 60 and 74 that during the last years of Huvishka's reign the Kushāṇa Empire in India was convulsed by civil

¹ Above, Vol. XXI, pp. 2 f.

² *Ibid.*, Vol. XIX, pp. 96 f., and plate.

³ See for the discussion on the date of this record, above, pp. 293 ff.

⁴ Dr. Sten Konow places the beginning of this era in A. D. 128-29 (*C. I. I.*, Vol. II, pt. i, p. xc v).

⁵ Though this era is usually called the Chēdi era, it does not seem that it originated in the Chēdi country. for, its early dates come from the Bombay Presidency. The name *Chēdi-samrat* occurs for the first time in a record of the year 919 (A. D. 1167-68) from Chhattī-garh. It was then current in the Chēdi country. In an earlier record of the year 831 (A. D. 1079) the date is introduced with the words *Chēdisasya samrat* evidently because it was used by the Kalachuris who were then ruling over the Chēdi country. The connection of the Kalachuris with this era does not go before the year 347 (A. D. 595).

⁶ It is conjectured from the discovery of the impression of a medal of Huvishka under the Vajrasana throne inside the temple of Bodh Gayā that the Empire of Huvishka included Bihar (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XXXVII, p. 60).

wars and revolution.¹ If the kings of Kauśāmbī were at first feudatories of the Kushānas, they must have asserted their independence in this period. No inscriptions of the reign of Vāsudēva have been found outside the Mathurā region. The kings of Kauśāmbī may therefore have been virtually independent during his time. After the death of Vāsudēva, there was no power in North India which could have held them in subjection till the rise of the Guptas.

The last known king of this line is Vijayamagha, but we need not suppose that the dynasty ended with him. His successors may have continued to rule at least over the territory round Kauśāmbī till the rise of the Guptas. Balavarman who is mentioned in the Allahābād *prāśasti* as one of the rulers of Āryāvarta (North India) exterminated by Samudragupta may have been ruling at Kauśāmbī. His name does not of course end in *magha*, but this presents no difficulty; for *magha* was not the invariable suffix of the names of these kings. R. D. Banerji proposed to identify this Balavarman with the homonymous ancestor of Bhāskaravarman of Assam.² But the identification does not appear to be correct for two reasons. Firstly, Balavarman was ninth in ascent from Bhāskaravarman. From the *Harshacharita* he seems to have come to the throne about A. D. 600. Taking 25 years as the average period of each reign, we find that this Balavarman of Assam must have ruled from circa A. D. 375 to 400. He was thus a contemporary of Chandragupta II, not of Samudragupta. Secondly, we find Kāmarūpa (Assam) included in the list of border kingdoms, the rulers of which paid homage and tribute to Samudragupta. Its ruler was not therefore exterminated by the Gupta Emperor.

Balavarman is therefore more likely to have been a ruler of Central India who was overthrown and whose territory was annexed by Samudragupta. He may have been ruling at Kauśāmbī. That Kauśāmbī was directly under the rule of the Guptas appears clear not only from the aforementioned statement in the *Purāṇas* about the extent of the Gupta kingdom, but also from the *prāśasti* on the stone pillar at Allahābād, which seems to have originally stood at Kauśāmbī.

Thus the theory that the dates of these Kings of Kauśāmbī refer to the Kushāna (or Śaka) era presents no difficulties.³ It harmonises all data satisfactorily and squares with our present knowledge of the history of Central India in the pre-Gupta period.

No. 43.—ASOGE PLATES OF KADAMBA JAYAKESIN (II) ; SAKA 1055.

By G. H. KHARE, POONA.

The plates were originally edited by me from the reading, etc., supplied by Mr. Dāmūtātyā Bokāde of Hubli, Dharwar District.⁴ Afterwards I was able to acquire the plates in question for the Bhārata Itihāsa Saṁśōdhaka Maṇḍala, from their owner, Gaṇapatarao Ināmdār of Asoge, Khānāpur, Belgaum District and re-edited them from the originals with facsimiles.⁵ I again edit them here for the benefit of English-knowing scholars.

¹ R. D. Banerji, *Prehistoric Ancient and Hindu India*, p. 131.

² R. D. Banerji, *Age of the Imperial Guptas*, p. 13. K. P. Jayaswal on the other hand, suggested that Balavarman was the second or *abhishēka* name of Kalyāṇavarman who is mentioned as the ruler of Pāṭaliputra in the *Kaumudīmahōtsava*, see his *History of India*, etc., p. 142, but the historicity of the drama is not above, suspicion.

³ The view that these kings flourished in the second and third centuries A. D. has also been supported by Mr. G. S. Chatterji (*Jha Commemoration Volume*, pp. 101 ff.), Dr. Motichandra (*J. N. S. I.*, Vol. II, pp. 95 ff.) and Dr. Sten Konow (above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 245 ff.).

⁴ G. H. Khare, *Sources of the Mediaeval History of the Dekkan (Marāṭh)* Vol. I p. 26 et seq.

⁵ *Ibid.* Vol. II, p. 9 et seq.

The record consists of **three plates**, measuring $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6\frac{1}{10}''$ in dimensions. The plates were, as informed by Mr. Bokāde, originally strung on a circular ring, the two ends of which were soldered into a **seal** bearing the figure of a **boar** in relief. I was, however, unable to acquire the seal. The inner sides of the first and the third and both the sides of the second plate are inscribed, containing 49 lines of writing in all. The sides contain 12, 13, 12 and 12 lines respectively. The rims of the plates being raised, the writing is perfectly preserved. The whole set weighs 170 tolas.

The charter is written in **Dēvanāgarī characters** of the 12th century of the Christian era, which closely resemble those found in the Kadamba inscriptions of the time and call for no special remarks. *Prishṭhamātrās* are invariably used. The form of *th* in *sthi* is peculiar and resembles that of *chh*. It occurs in ll. 1, 10, 21, 38. A *daṇḍa* appearing at the end of ll. 1, 17, 18, 23, 38, 43 and 44 stands to serve the purpose of a hyphen, showing that the word is continued in the next line.

About **orthography** three points deserve mention here. *B* is generally substituted by *v* as *vibharti* (l. 3), *Kādam̐va* (l. 10), *vivudhō* (l. 47), etc., and *ś* by *s* in some cases, as in *saurya* (l. 21) *Galagēśvara* (l. 28), *sālē* (l. 38). *Visarga* followed by *ś* and *s* is invariably changed to *ś* and *s* respectively. The **language** of the inscription is Sanskrit and the composition is in verse throughout.

The following **place-names** occur in this grant : **Koṅkana** (l. 8) ; the river **Malaprahāriṇī** (l. 25) ; **Palasī-dēśa** (l. 29) ; the *kampana* **Kālagiri** including the village **Kūpaṭṭōggarikā** (l. 33). Koṅkana does not require any elucidation. Malaprahāriṇī is evidently the old name of the modern Malaprabhā. Palasī is the modern Halsī in the Khānāpur taluqa of the Belgaum District.¹ There is a shrine called Galagēśvara at the village of Baloge, which is evidently identical with the one mentioned in the record, as it is situated on the bank of the river Malaprabhā, the Malaprahāriṇī of the inscription. It is some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the west of Khānāpur. The *kampana* Kālagiri is referred to in a similar inscription.² The *Postal Village Directory of the Bombay Circle* notes Kālagiri as a deserted village in Khānāpur³. It may be the old Kālagiri. Kūpaṭṭōggarikā seems to be Kopulgeree of the *Indian Atlas*, sheet 41, shown some 3 miles due south-east of Khānāpur.

The details of the **date**, as given in ll. 38-40, are the **Śaka year 1055**, expressed by the words *śara* (=5), *śara* (=5) and *āśū* (=10), the **cyclic year Pramādin**, the **first day of the bright fortnight of Phālguna**, **Saturday and the solar eclipse**. According to the *Indian Chronology*⁴ by Pillai, the expired Śaka year 1055 coincides with the cyclic year Pramādin and there was a solar eclipse on the newmoon day of Māgha of that year which fell on Friday. But as the period after the occurrence of the eclipse is also reckoned as auspicious for making grants, Saturday, the first day of the bright fortnight of Phālguna, is cited here as the day of the grant.

¹ For other references to Palasī and its variants Palāsīkā, Palasige, etc., see *Bombay Gazetteer*, Vol. I, part II, pp. 285, 288, 289, 298 note 2, 353 note 1, 451, 452, 456, 460, 476, 486, 565, 568-570.

² *J. B. B. R. A. S.*, Vol. IX, pp. 279 and 280.

³ But the *Indian Atlas* (published in 1852 A. D.), sheet no. 41, does not show this village.

⁴ *Tables*, page 87.

But it should also be borne in mind that Mr. Pillai has given the mean ending moment of the newmoon day there. The Christian equivalent of the date is 27th January A. D. 1134.¹

The object of the inscription is to record a grant, by **Kādamba Jayakēśin** II of Goa, of the village **Kūpaṭṭōggarikā** to one **Śivaśakti**, a 'store of penance', for the worship of the God **Gala-gēśvara**, for the repairs of his temple and for the accomplishment of *satras* on auspicious occasions such as *Chaitra*, *pavitra*, etc.

After the first two benedictory verses praying for the favour of Hari and Śiva, the record goes on to describe the origin and genealogy of the Kādambas of Goa. From the drops of sweat of Śiva fallen at the foot of a *kadamba* tree sprang **Trilōchana-Kadamba**, who resided in the **Koṅkaṇa** and from whom the family got the name Kādamba. In this family was born **Jayakēśin** (I), who received the title *Rāyapitāmaha* by his successfully reconciling the **Chālukya** and **Chōla** kings at **Kāñchi** who were hostile to each other. This fact has been also referred to in the **Kiri-Halasige** plates² thus :—

चालुक्यचोलभूपालौ काञ्च्यां मित्रे विधाय यः ।

पेर्मद्वित्यंनिर्घोषोप्यासोद्गायपितामहः ॥

From him was born **Vijayāditya** who begot **Jayakēśin** (II). The only fact recorded about him in this inscription is that a certain king gave his daughter in marriage to him. Unfortunately the name of either the king or his daughter is not mentioned here, but we know these names from other records. For instance, the same **Kiri-Halasige** plates have the following verse :—

भूभृत्परायणः पृथुयज्ञा गांभीर्यरत्नाकरः

श्रीपेर्माडितपः पयोनिधिनिभः सोमानुजां कन्यकाम् ।

यस्मै विस्मयकारिभूरिविभवदंत्वं(त्वे)भकोशादिभिः

ख्यातः श्रीपतये स मल्लमहादेवी कृतार्थोभवत् ॥

This verse apparently states that the King **Permāḍi** (=Chālukya **Vikramāditya VI**) gave his daughter **Mailalamahādēvi**, the younger sister of **Sōmēśvara III**, to him.³ There is perhaps one more fact recorded about **Jayakēśin** (II). The 13th verse begins with the phrase *Kṛita-Bhōgapur-āvāsō* which means that he made **Bhōgapura** his residence. If we accept this meaning, we must try to identify **Bhōgapura**. But as it is mentioned singly, we are practically helpless in the matter.

¹ [What **Dewan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai** has shown at the cited place evidently refers to the Christian equivalent of the *amāvāsyā* of the month of **Māgha** in the year concerned, which is Friday, 26th January A. D. 1134, without referring to the exact duration of that *tithi*. The solar eclipse, however, appears to have taken place in the early hours of the following day, namely Saturday, 27th January A. D. 1134, when the *amāvāsyā* ended about two hours and a half after the mean sun-rise, the rest, or the major part, of that day thus being counted as the first day of the bright fortnight of the month of **Phālguna**, the *tithi* mentioned in the inscription. This is made clear by referring to **Pillai's Indian Ephemeris**, Vol. III, p. 270. From this it follows that the donation was both actually made and recorded on the same day, though by a few hours' difference the recording fell on the following *tithi*. The date of the record may thus be regarded as perfectly regular.—B. C. C.]

² *J. B. B. R. A. S.*, Vol. IX, p. 242.

³ *Ibid.* The fact is also clearly mentioned in the **Dēgāmve**, **Halsī**, and **Gōjihalī** inscriptions (*ibid.*, pp. 267, 279, 288, 296), **Goa plates** (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, p. 289) and the first **Narēndra** inscription (above, Vol. XIII, p. 298) and inferred in the second **Narēndra** inscription (*ibid.*, p. 316).

This record extends the period of Jayakēśin's reign by 8 years ; for, the present charter is issued in Śaka 1055 and the last known date of Jayakēśin II, as recorded by the late Dr. Fleet and as found in inscriptions published since then, is Śaka 1017.¹

All the same I must confess that this record does not throw any light on his political relation to the successor of the Chālukya King Vikramāditya. This record has nothing to show whether he acknowledged the Chālukya supremacy.

After the 25th verse appear two usual imprecatory verses. The last two stanzas tell us that one Sōmadēva, son of Trailōkyadēva, of the Upamanyu gōtra drafted the grant, and an artisan named Rāmadēva engraved it.

TEXT²

[Metres : Vv. 1-8, 13-24, 27, 29 *Anuṣṭubh* ; vv. 9, 11, 12 *Śārdūlavikrīṭa* ; v. 10 *Āryā* ; v. 25 *Gāthā* ; v. 26 *Śālinī* ; v. 28 *Vasantatilakā*.]

First Plate.

- 1 श्रीः ॥*] भूयाद्विभूत्यं भवतां स वराहवपुर्हरिः [१*] पोत्रप्रान्तस्थिता य-
- 2 स्य मुस्तास्तंवा(वा)यते महो ॥[१॥*] स वशिषवशिषवं दद्यान्मौलो यस्य
- 3 हिमद्युतिः [१*] वि(वि)भतिं नाकनलिनीमृणालशकलश्रियं(यम्) ।[१२॥*] पुरा पु-
- 4 रायां विजये शंभोः कतिचिदास्पदं(दम्) । चकुलंलाटफलके भ्रमस्वे-
- 5 दोदवि(वि)दवः³ ।[१३॥*] कदंब(ब)तलमाप्तेभ्यस्तेभ्यो नेत्रत्रयार्चितः [१*] चतुर्भु-
- 6 जस्तमभव स्थौ(स्थै)र्यधैर्यधरो नरः [१४॥*] शक्तिमान्विबु(बु)धानंदक-
- 7 रः[*] स्कंद इवापरः [१*] त्रिलोचनकदंबा(बा)ह्यां वि(वि)भ्रदद्भुतविक्रमः [१५॥*]
- 8 स नागवल्लीकलिते कदलीधंडमंडिते । चकार कोंकणे वा-
- 9 सं विलासवसतिस्त्रिच(त्रिच)रं(रम्) ।[१६॥*] ततः प्रवृत्ते वंशशुद्धशीतांशुनि-
- 10 र्मलः । अम्लानकमलोल्लासो महेस्व(स्व)रकृतस्थितिः [१७॥*] कादंब(ब)प-
- 11 दविह्यतो राजहंसोपशोभितः । अभंग इव गंगायाः प्रवा-
- 12 हो हिमव[१⁴]दिगरेः ।[१८॥*] एतस्मिजयकेशिभूपतिरभूदभोधिगर्भो-

¹ *Bombay Gazeer*, Vol. I, part II, p. 568 and *Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XIII, 298, 316. Prof. Moraes in his *Kadamba Kula* (p. 197), seems to extend this period to A. D. 1147 (Ś. 1070 current), because Jayakēśin II's son succeeded him in that year. But unless records of the intermediate period are found, that will not be the final conclusion. There may have been other causes, such as chaos, which may have prevented the son from succeeding his father before Ś. 1070 current. [Two inscriptions of the reign of Jayakēśin II bearing the date Śaka 1058, have been noticed in the *An. Rep. on S. I. E.* for 1925-26 (Nos. 453 and 461 of Appendix C). Another record of the same ruler (*ibid.*, No. 450) probably belongs to A. D. 1138 (Kālayukta).—N. L. R.]

² Prepared from the original plates.

³ The two circles representing the sign of *visarga* are separated, one appearing at the top and the other at the bottom of the letter *va*. Evidently the engraver first omitted the *visarga* inadvertently and later on, discovering his mistake, inserted it in the manner described above for want of space.

⁴ The form of दिग resembles very much that of हि.

⁵ Read एतस्मिजयकेशि.

Second Plate ; First Side.

- 13 द्रुवे रत्नेरर्थितेश्वकार सफलं यस्त्यार्णसिंहासनं(वम्) । निश्च-
 14 कोंकतटे गृहीतसमरो चालुक्यचोलाधिपौ कृत्वा रायसि-
 15 तामहेति महतीमद्व। प्रसिद्धि गतः ।[१६॥*] तस्माद्विजयादित्यस्त्यवता-
 16 मप्रणीर्णः प्रगुणः [१*] जातस्स यस्य कीर्त्तिर्विलसति लोके पताकेव ॥[१०॥*]
 17 जातोस्माज्जयकेशिदेवनृपतिस्सी(स्सा)क्षादिबाधोक्षजः क्षोणीर-
 18 क्षणदक्षिणस्युमनसामानंदसंदोहदः । यो वाल्यो(बाल्ये)पि यज्ञोदयाप-
 19 रिगतस्सत्योल्लसन्मानसो दृष्टोदारपराक्रमो व(व)लिजये
 20 लक्ष्म्या समालिङ्गितः [१११॥*] अस्योसा(त्सा)हसस्त्वस्य साहसवतो निस्स(श्श)क-
 21 सौ(शौ)र्यस्थितेः(ते)र्माहात्म्यं महनीयमानमहसः किं वर्णयामो वयम् ।
 22 यस्मै विस्मयवान्वितीयं विधिना सर्वस्वभूतां सुतां साद्वं वाजिगज-
 23 जेन पृथिवीनाथः कृतार्थोभवत् ॥[१२॥*] कृतभोगपुरावासो वि-
 24 लासवसतिनृपः । स पुण्णन्नर्थिलायस्य विविधार्थम्मनोरथान् ।[१३॥*]
 25 सरित्सह्याद्विसंभूता शैबेलिं गैर्भिरंतरा [१*] मलप्रहारिणीत्यस्ति ता-

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 26 पपापापहारिणी ।[१४॥*] क्षत्रक्षेत्रक्षयोद्धूतस्फूर्जद्वृजिनमार्जनात् । प्रा-
 27 प्ता परशुरामस्य स्वस्य नाम्नो यथार्थतान्(म्) ।[१५॥*] तस्यास्तीरेस्ति भगवान्¹
 28 स्वयंभूर्भुक्तिमुक्तिदः । शंभुः प्रसिद्धस्थो(स्थौ)त्येन गलगेस्व(श्च)रसंज्ञया ।[१६॥*]
 29 दत्तभक्तजनानन्दः एतसीदेशभूषणं(णम्) । प्रकटीकृतमाहात्म्यस्तत्त-
 30 द्वरसमर्पणात् ।[१७॥*] तस्मै पूजोपचारायं जीर्णोद्धरणकर्मणे । त-
 31 [था] चैत्रपवित्रादिपर्वणे सत्रसिद्धये ।[१८॥*] तत्तद्भोगविभूत्यर्थं
 32 भक्तिनिर्गर्भं(र्भं)रमानसः । महामाहेस्व(श्च)रः प्रादाज्जयकेशिमही-
 33 पतिः ।[१९॥*] कंषणे कालगिर्यस्थे कूपट्टोगरिकाभिर्धं(वम्) । प्राधं त्रिभोग-
 34 संपन्नं सर्व्ववा(बा)धाविवर्जितं(तम्) ।[२०॥*] नमस्यं सर्व्वलोकस्य यावदाचंद्रता-

¹ This n appears more like nū.

१
 २
 ३
 ४
 ५
 ६
 ७
 ८
 ९
 १०
 ११
 १२

[illegible]

26 ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ तत्त्वज्ञानं हि जगत्प्रसादात् ॥ २६ ॥
 २८ स्वयं भगवन् प्रकटयति ॥ तदा तदा तदा तदा तदा तदा ॥ २८ ॥
 ३० दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ३० ॥
 ३२ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ३२ ॥
 ३४ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ३४ ॥
 ३६ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ३६ ॥

३८ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ३८ ॥
 ४० दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ४० ॥
 ४२ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ४२ ॥
 ४४ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ४४ ॥
 ४६ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ४६ ॥
 ४८ दत्तं न कुरुते न जन्तुः पश्यन्तीति दशमः ॥ ४८ ॥

- 35 रक्तं । प्रसिद्धचतुराघाटं पूर्व्वसीमासमन्वितं(तम्) ।[१२१॥*] तपोनिष्ठागरिष्ठस्य
 36 शिवशक्तेस्तपोनिधेः । बारिधारां समुत्सृज्य पाणौ तत्पिंडिकाल-
 37 [टे] ।[१२२॥*] सर्व्वप्रधानसंमत्या पुरोहितपुरस्सरो(रः) [१*] विद्यावशावदने

Third Plate.

- 38 विद्वद्गिर्ग(र्गो)न्तिकस्थिते ॥[२३॥*] सा(शा)के शरशराशांके प्रमादिपरिवत्सरे ।
 39 काल्गुने शुद्धपक्षस्य प्रतिपद्विषते शुभे ।[१२४॥*] सूर्योपरागे सौर्येह्नि(ह्नि)
 40 सर्व्वपर्व्वोत्तमोत्तमे । अत्रं चित्रचारित्रः प्राह धीर्कोकणेश्वरः [१*]
 41 आगामिभूपानभ्यर्थ्य धर्म्मोयं पाल्यतामिति ॥[२५॥*] सामान्योयं
 42 धर्म्मसेतुर्नृपाणां काले काले पालनीयो भवद्भिः । सर्व्वनिता-
 43 न्भाविनः पार्थिवेन्द्रान्भूयो भूयो याचते रामचंद्रः ॥[२६॥*] स्व-
 44 दत्तां परदत्तां वा यो हरेत वसुंधराम् । षष्टि वर्षसहस्रा-
 45 नि विष्ठायां जायते क्रिमिः ।[१२७॥*] श्रीशारदापदसरोरुहलोल-
 46 भृंगः ह्याति गतो जगति जङ्गमभारतोति । श्रीसोमदेववि-
 47 बु(बु)धो व्यदधादिवं श्रीत्रैलोक्यदेवतनुभूरुपमन्युगो[त्रः] ।[१२८॥*]
 48 अनल्पशिल्पकुशलो रामदेवाभिधः शुचिः । अलिखलिखि-
 49 लार्थंशशश(स)नं नृपशासनात् ॥[२९॥*] मंगल(लं) महाश्री[:*]

No. 44.—BALSANE INSCRIPTION OF THE TIME OF KRISHNA ; SAKA 1106.

By MORESHWAR G. DIKSHIT, B.A., BOMBAY.

The following inscription is carved on the lintel of the entrance door of a temple at *Balsāpē*, in the Pimpalner *tālukā* of the West Khāndesh District of the Bombay Presidency, a place well known for its several temples in the Chalukyan style. It has been noticed several times previously : in the *Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency*, Vol. XII (Khāndesh), p. 433 ; by Burgess and Cousens in the *Revised Lists of Antiquarian Remains in the Bombay Presidency*, p. 55 ; by R. D. Banerji in the *Annual Progress Report, Archaeological Survey of India, Western Circle*, for the year 1918-19, p. 45 ; and again by Cousens¹ in his *Mediaeval Temples of the Dakhan*, p. 26. Its

¹ This inscription, however, does not find a place in the *Progress Report, A. S. I., W. C.*, for 1891-92, where the Balsāpē temples are described, for the first time, by Mr. Cousens.

text and facsimile have, however, not yet been published. The brief notices of its contents are both inadequate and inaccurate. I copied it in March 1941, when I accompanied Mr. R. G. Gyani, M.A., the Curator, Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, on an archaeological tour in Khāndesh. Its estampage, published here, I owe to the authorities of the P. W. Museum, Bombay. I am obliged to the Government Epigraphist for giving me an opportunity to edit it in this journal. I have also to thank Mr. G. H. Khare, of the Bhārata Itihāsa Saṁśōdhaka Maṇḍaḷa, Poona, and Mr. S. K. Dikshit, M.A., for some suggestions.

The inscribed piece of the lintel, which is smoothly dressed, measures about $4\frac{1}{4}' \times \frac{1}{2}'$. The inscription consists of five long lines and two very short ones added at the left end. The letters are deeply carved and are in an excellent state of preservation.

The **characters** are the usual type of the Nāgarī alphabet and regular for the period in which the record was inscribed. While most of the letters exhibit the fully developed forms as they are found in the present day Nāgarī, some of them, such as *ch*, *j*, *ṇ*, *dh*, *b*, *bh*, *r*, *ś*, etc., appear in a transitory stage. The initial *i* (l. 3), *ī* (l. 5) and *ē* (l. 2) show their early forms.

The **language** is Sanskrit, but the composition of the record is very faulty, though most of the mistakes are due to the carelessness of the scribe. Except for the portions giving the particulars of the date and the name of the architect, the inscription is in verse. As regards **orthography**, *b* and *v*, *ś*, *sh* and *s* are generally differentiated, but sometimes confounded. The forms like *pum̐ṇya* for *punya* (l. 1), *samāhvaē* for *samāhvayē* (l. 2), *sthāi* for *sthāyī* (l. 5), etc., are mere phonetic variations. There are a number of other mistakes that are pointed out in giving the text.

The inscription opens with an invocatory stanza. The next verse describes that in the Gārgya family was born one **Sōmēśvara**-Paṇḍita, son of **Padmanābha**, a poet of great renown. His son was the illustrious **Mahalūka**-Paṇḍita, who became famous by his personal good qualities. He is stated to have helped a king named **Kṛishṇa** in obtaining the earth. From this we are perhaps to infer that Mahalūka-Paṇḍita served under that king either as a minister or as a priest. He is further described as a well-known mathematician and a knower of *dharma*. The **object** of the inscription is to record that the *Paṇḍita* repaired the Royal Maṭha (*Rāja-maṭha*), standing on the banks of a river, at **Balasāṇaka**, for the inhabitation of Brahmins. In the last verse a hope is expressed that the *maṭha* should last through hundreds of *kalpas*. At the end it is stated that the engraving was done by the architect **Dāṇḍa**.

The **date** of the inscription is given three times, twice in the second line in words and numerical figures and once again at the termination of the record, as the **Śaka year 1106**, but without any specification of the month, fortnight, *tithi* or week-day. It does not therefore admit of verification. It corresponds to A. D. 1184.

Banerji¹ was the first to give an abstract of the contents of this inscription and to discuss its bearings. His rendering of it, however, is not all correct. In his account we do not find any mention of the name of Mahalūka-Paṇḍita, who repaired the *maṭha*. He takes the epithets of Mahalūka as those of Sōmēśvara whom he treats as the minister of Kṛishṇa. Evidently his decipherment of the record was imperfect. To the same defect is to be attributed his statement that Sōmēśvara "held the king Kṛishṇarāja in the palm of his hands". The passage in question, as already shown, refers to Mahalūka and may literally be rendered as "one who quickly does or makes over the earth in the palm of the hand of the king Kṛishṇa".

¹ *Loc. cit.*

As regards the identification of this king Kṛishṇa, Banerji has rightly pointed out that he cannot be the Rāshtrakūṭa or the Paramāra prince of that name, as their known dates are far remote from the period of the present inscription.

Mr. Sachindra Chandra Majumdar,¹ who has further discussed this inscription, follows Banerji's account. According to him, Kṛishṇa belongs to the Nikumbha-vaṁśa. Two inscriptions² of this family have been found at Pāṭaṇ, near Chālisgāon, in the East Khāndesh District. According to them there were two kings of that name in the Nikumbha family. Mr. Majumdar identifies the Kṛishṇa of the present inscription with Kṛishṇarāja II of the Nikumbha family, who was alive in Śaka 1070. He seems to suggest that the Balsānē inscription is a posthumous record of Kṛishṇarāja II. His arguments in favour of the above identification appear to be far-fetched and based on several suppositions. He takes it for granted that the *maṭha* was not repaired *during* the reign of Kṛishṇa. He also suggests the possibility of Sōmēśvara (actually Mahālūka) having outlived Kṛishṇarāja II by over 36 years, which is improbable, if not impossible. In Khāndesh, the Nikumbha-vaṁśa, the dynasty with which he has tried to connect the Kṛishṇa of our inscription, ruled in the vicinity of Pāṭaṇ, which is about 64 miles, south by west of Balsānē, where the present record is found. It seems hardly possible that petty chieftains like the Nikumbhas should have wielded their power over such a great distance.

Taking these things into consideration, it is clear that the king Kṛishṇa of our inscription could not have been the Nikumbha prince of that name, as held by Mr. Majumdar, and should therefore be located somewhere else.

It is well known to the students of history that there were several minor feudatory families ruling in Khāndesh (*Seuṇadēśa*, of those times) during the Yādava³ period. Many of these go under the general name of Ābhīras or Ahīras, of whom Khāndesh has still a very large population.

Gauḷi rājās, or the Cowherd kings, as they are sometimes called, have several traditions current about them. According to one, the structures in the so-called *Hemādipanti* or the late Chalukyan style of architecture are said to be the works of these rulers.⁴ Siṅghaṇa, the great Yādava king, is stated to have won several victories over the Cowherd Kings, which are referred to in his inscriptions.⁵

Of the many Ābhīra-kulas,⁶ we know of one family from Bhambhāgiri. Siṅghaṇa's victory over one Lakshmīdēva, the lord of Bhambhāgiri, is mentioned in the Āmbē Inscription No. 2

¹ *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. L (1921), pp. 58 f.

² *Ibid.*, Vol. VIII, p. 39 ff.; above, Vol. I, p. 338 ff. Besides these two inscriptions, another fragmentary inscription, belonging probably to the same family and containing the names of Kṛishṇarāja (II), Indra and Gōvana (III), was discovered by the late Mr. V. K. Rajwade, the well-known Marāṭhī historian, in the river-bed at Pāṭaṇ. He published his account of this inscription in the first volume of the Marāṭhī magazine *Prabhāta* of Dhulia. This inscription, which he reports to have been removed to Chālisgāon, cannot be traced now.

³ The earliest Yādava inscription in Khāndesh is the Vāghḷi inscription of Maurya Gōvindarāja, Śaka 991, referring to the reign of Seuṇa (Seuṇachandra II) of the Early Yādava dynasty (above, Vol. II, p. 225 ff.); and the latest, so far known, is the Mēthī inscription of Kṛishṇa, Śaka 1176, belonging to the Later Yādava dynasty. See *Samśōdhaka* (Quarterly Journal of the Rājwāde Samśōdhana Mandira, Dhulia), Vol. VI, Nos. 3-4, p. 213 ff. Mēthī, situated about 30 miles to the north of Dhulia, the headquarters of the West Khāndesh District, on the Dhulia Donḍāichē road, has several temples of the Yādava period.

⁴ *Bomb. Gaz.*, Vol. XII, p. 450.

⁵ See his Mārḍi inscription (line 40). G. H. Khare, *Sources of the Mediaeval History of the Deccan* (in Marāṭhī), Vol. I, p. 43.

⁶ For later Ābhīras or Cowherds (Gōpaka-Pālakas) during the reign of Yādava Kṛishṇa, see *ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 14.

of his general Khōlēsvara.¹ Hēmādri, in his *Vratākhaṇḍa*,² mentions the name of this prince as Lakshmidhara. The defeat of the lord of Bhambhāgiri is also mentioned in the Paiṭhaṇ³ and Purshōttampuri⁴ plates of Rāmachandra. Prof. Mirashi, who has edited the Purshōttampuri plates, has suggested that Bhambhāgiri may possibly be Bhāmēr, four miles to the south of Nizāmpur, in the Pimpalner tālukā of the West Khāndesh District.⁵

Balsāṇē, where the present inscription is found, is situated within a radius of ten miles from Bhāmēr, being only seven miles north by east of the latter place. If Prof. Mirashi's identification of this place is accepted as correct, the king Kṛishṇa of our inscription, may possibly belong to the Ābhira family of Bhambhāgiri. He may have therefore been an ancestor of Lakshmidēva above referred to.

No other details regarding the king Kṛishṇa having been given in the inscription, our suggestion is only tentative and provisional. Further research in the matter may prove its correctness or otherwise.

As regards the geographical names the only place referred to here is Balasāṇaka, which is obviously modern Balsāṇē, where the inscription is found. The river mentioned in it, not by name, refers to the modern Bōrāi (Burray, of the maps), by the side of which the *maṭha* is situated. Cousens' statement⁶ to the effect that Kēsara was the old name of it, is obviously due to the confusion in the reading.

TEXT

[Metres:—v. 1. *Vamśastha* ; v. v. 2-3. *Śārdūlavikṛīḍita* ; v. 4 . *Upajāti*.]

- 1 अवंतु वो ब्रह्मपदाञ्ज(ञ्ज)रेणवः स्वपारसंसारसमृद्धसेतवः । अथोधकक्षयधूमकेतवः सर्वं
पु(पु)ण्योपचयंकहेतवः⁸ ।[1111*]
- 2 गोत्रे गार्ग्यसमाह्वये(ये) समभवत् श्री⁹पद्मनाभात्मजः[. 1*] श्रीसोमेदवरपंडितः कविसभालंकारवाचस्पतिः ।
शाके¹⁰ षट्श¹¹चंद्रभिः ११०६ प्र[ति]¹² [1*]
- 3 यद्वाचः प्रचुरोपचारचतुराः श्रुत्वा बुवाः सांप्रतं प्रख्यातास्तत्त्वार्थवाग्विलसिते जाताः
सुमंदादराः ।[1211*] तज(तज्ज)श्रीमहलूकपंडित इह स्वीये[. 1*] प्रसिधो(द्धो) गुण्यं[:]

¹ *Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 64.

² Sir R. G. Bhandarkar, *Early History of the Deccan*, Appendix, p. 171.

³ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, p. 314 ff.

⁴ Above, Vol. XXV, p. 199 ff.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 203.

⁶ *Mediaeval Temples of the Dakhan*, p. 27.

⁷ From the original stone.

⁸ The letter *vaṣ* is written separately from the rest of the inscription on account of some flaw in the stone.

⁹ [The reading seems to be *t=erī* which may be corrected into *ch=chārī*.—B. C. C.]

¹⁰ The word *Sākē* was first written, and subsequently restored to *Śākē* by erasing the horizontal stroke, which has come out faintly in the estampage.

¹¹ Read *shaṣṭ-dāśin*.

¹² Flaw in the stone. Only faint traces of the *akshara* in the brackets are visible. [Excluding the numerals the rest of this date portion reads as if it were a part of the verse, in the *Śārdūlavikṛīḍita* metre, but is obviously not so. The form *chandrahiṣ* is incorrect for *chandraiḥ*.—B. C. C.]

1 सवैतुवोब्रह्मपद। ब्रह्मलवः कर्मसि सान समुद्रसे वः ॥
 2 णे तेभागपिसमाखपसममवप्सी पद्मनामा कुरुणीभि
 4 यहासः पुत्रोपवानवतुभाः सुवोबुधः सापतप्रहवा ताद्यकन
 6 कुरुसुमलोपतेकगुतलेकताद्यपिअवेनागिा गित्पीवगुहबोवतन
 8 कर्मवसमोनिमननबुलनिकासहेतोअस्त्राः वयः कल्पराते ॥

Right side.

1 अ, प, क, कुरुवरेक, केतवः सदेवचै ॥ पवलेकहत
 2 अश्वमेवहितः कविसनालेकायवावस्पतिः सावधुसमिः
 3 द्वाग्निलसितेडा ताः सुमदुदभाः तजशीमफल कल्पिताः फलीयेषु मिमिगु ॥
 4 ॥ ॥ वेमैह, सितामणि सुमैहो बलसागाकसमसिद्धिमान दोसदने आकायय
 5 ॥ ॥ योकोदयः पुल्य विवृषि हेतु ॥ राक १०६

- 4 क्रे(कु)ष्णस्य महीपतेः करतले कर्ताशु पिष्ठा(च्छा)चलं(लाम्) । गां(गा)णित्यांबुहृद्प्रबोधतरणि-
धर्मज्ञचितामणि[:*] स्थाने स्त्री(श्री)बलसाणके स(सु)रसरिद्वं(द्व)म्यानदीसद्वने ।[1३॥*]
आ(अ)कारयद्वा-
- 5 जमठं च भग्नं निरंतरं ब्रह्मनिवासहेतोः । स्थाई(यी) च यः कल्पशतेषु भूयान्महोदयः
पुण्यविब्रेधि(वृद्धि)हेतुः ।[1४॥*] शक ११०६
- 6 दांडं सूत्रधारे-
- 7 ण घटितः ।

TRANSLATION.

(V. 1). May the particles of pollen on the lotuses (*in the form*) of the feet of Brahman protect you!—the particles, every one of which is a very bridge across the endless ocean of *samsāra* (a succession of births and deaths), a veritable fire for consuming the straw (*in the shape*) of a multitude of sins, (*and*) the unique source of ever increasing religious merit.

(V. 2). In the family called Gārgya was born the illustrious Sōmēśvara-Paṇḍita,—son of the illustrious Padmanābha,—who (Sōmēśvara) was an ornament of the assembly of poets, a very Vāchaspati, having listened to whose elegant and lively utterances the wise men have now become lukewarm in their appreciation of the literary achievements even of the most celebrated and outstanding poets.

(Vv. 3-4). His son is the illustrious Mahalūka-Paṇḍita, who has become famous in this world by dint of his own merits, who is a very sun in unfolding the lotus (*in the form*) of the science of mathematics, who is, as it were, a desire-fulfilling gem amongst the exponents of the *dharma*, (*and*) who in no time made over the earth (*picchhāchalā*)¹ to the possession of the king *Kṛishṇa*.

At the holy place of *Balasāṇaka*, in a fine grove, where there is a river beautiful as the Ganges (*flowing by*), he caused to be repaired, for the perpetual inhabitation of Brahmins, the dilapidated Royal monastery (*Rāja-maṭha*), which is highly auspicious, enhancing the religious merit as it does. May this last through hundreds of *kalpas*!

(Ll. 2 and 5-7). In the *Śaka* (*year denoted*) by six, ten and moon (=one), 1106, (*this*) has been constructed (*i.e.*, reconstructed) by the architect Dāṁḍam (or Dāṁḍama).

No. 45.—CHITTAGONG COPPER-PLATE OF KANTIDEVA.

By LT. COLONEL R. C. MAJUMDAR, M.A., PH.D., Dacca.

This is a **single copper-plate**, inscribed on one side only, measuring 10·4 inches high by 7·6 inches broad. The **seal**, soldered to the top of the plate above the written part, is oval in shape, and has a raised rim with pointed ends. It is divided into two panels. The upper one bears in relief the figure of a **seated lion** inside a temple. The temple is indicated, as in many

¹ I am obliged to Mr. S. K. Dikshit, M.A., for the meaning of the word *picchhāchalā*.

sculptures in Bengal, by a trefoil arch with flagstaves on both sides. The seated lion is represented with mouth open and all the four paws in front. Across the lower panel of the seal is the legend *Śrī-Kāntidēvaḥ*. The letters are engraved in bold relief on a raised space. The seal is supported, at its lower end, by two figures of serpents, with raised hoods, whose interlaced tails and parts of the bodies are soldered both to the raised rim of the seal and the plate. On the body of the plate, at about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the bottom and 5 inches from the proper right side, there is an oval hole which has partly cut through its whole depth. As there are writings on both sides of it, and not a single letter is lost, the hole must have existed before the plate was engraved. The plate contains seventeen lines of writing, which cover a space $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. The remaining part of the front and the whole of the back side are blank.

The plate was discovered, some time about 1920, by Prof. J. N. Sikdar, in an old temple at Chittagong, locally known as *Bara-ākharā*. According to the *Mohunt* (Chief priest) of the temple, the plate was lying there since its foundation. The plate is now preserved in the Dacca Museum.

The inscription which the plate bears was edited by Prof. D. C. Bhattacharya, M.A., and Prof. J. N. Sikdar, M.A., in the *Modern Review* for November, 1922, pp. 612-14. As this number of the Journal is not easily available and some important historical points were not dealt with properly there, I re-edit the record from the original plate. For the sake of brevity I shall refer to the joint-editors as DJ.

The record is incomplete. It contains only the formal portion of the grant, and ends abruptly just where we should expect a detailed account of the land granted. It is, therefore, not exactly a land-grant, but one that was intended to be used as such. An apt parallel is furnished by the Kedārpur plate of Śrīchandra (above, Vol. XVII, pp. 188-92). The present plate supports the view of the editor of the Kedārpur plate, that such unfinished plates were kept ready in office and filled in with the remaining portion at the time of the actual grant.

The characters are neatly engraved and the plate is in such a good state of preservation that not a single letter presents any difficulty in reading.

The alphabet closely resembles that used in the Pāla records of the ninth century A. D. It is, however, difficult to accept DJ's contention that the inscription is to be placed earlier than the Ghosrāwa inscription¹ of Dēvapāla's time. They are of opinion that though "the characters mainly resemble those in the Ghosrāwa inscription the letters *bh* and *th* are in ancient forms". A comparison of *bh* in *va(ba)bhūvur* = in l. 2 of Ghosrāwa inscription with that in *°bhāshita-Bhārata* in l. 6 of the present record does not show any material difference. As regards *th*, the letter read as such by DJ in line 6 is really *rth* and hence shows a different form. On the other hand DJ have failed to note that the Ghosrāwa inscription preserves distinctly older forms of *kh*, *ṇ*, and *ś* which are not to be found in the present record. It is true that the later forms of these letters are also to be met with in the records of Dēvapāla. But this only proves that the present record is perhaps slightly later, rather than earlier, than the time of Dēvapāla. On the whole, it would be more reasonable to assign the record on palaeographic grounds to the ninth century A. D., rather than to 750-850 A. D. as suggested by DJ. In view of the advanced forms of some letters it may be even somewhat later.

The language is Sanskrit. With the exception of line 1 containing the name of the locality whence the charter was issued and the preamble of the grant beginning with *sa khalu* (l. 13), the rest of the record is in verse. The composition shows that the author was proficient in Sanskrit.

¹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVII, pp. 307-12.

As regards orthography, the following points may be noted. Final consonants like *m* and *t* are represented by distinct symbols (cf. *m* in *lōkam*, l. 3; *kshayam*, l. 12; *t* in °*vārāt* and *vāsakāt*, l. 1; *bhūt*, l. 7), while a slanting stroke is added below *n* (*mahān* in l. 10). The sign for *v* denotes *b* as well. Consonants are not doubled after *r*, the only exceptions being *Varddhmāna* in l. 1 and *kirtti*, in l. 11.

The inscription refers to three generations of a **Buddhist family**. The first name is Bhadradata, obviously an error for **Bhadradatta**. He was devoted to the Buddha and defeated his enemies. His son **Dhanadatta** married **Vindurati** (Bindurati), a devotee of Śiva and a daughter of a great king. The issue of this marriage was king **Kāntidēva** who is styled *Paramasaugata*, *Paramēśvara* and *Mahārājādhirāja*. It is obvious that neither the father nor the grandfather of Kāntidēva was a king, and he must either have inherited his throne from his maternal grandfather or carved out an independent kingdom for himself.

As to the locality of the kingdom, the record furnishes us two clues. The reference to future kings of the **Harikēlā-maṇḍala** in l. 16 leaves no doubt that it was included within his kingdom. It is just possible also that Harikēlā constituted his entire dominion, though this is by no means certain. For, the future kings of Harikēlā might have been selected for admonition only on the ground that the land to be granted was situated there.

The lexicographer Hēmachandra explains Harikēlā as a synonym of Vaṅga,¹ while Vaṅga, Samatāṭa and Harikēlā are mentioned in the *Mañjuśrīmūlakalpa*² as distinct localities. According to two manuscripts preserved in the Dacca University Library,³ Harikōla, which may be taken as a variant of Harikēlā, is synonymous with Sylhet. I-tsing also describes Harikēlā as the eastern limit of E. India.⁴ It is thus clear that like many other geographical terms, Harikēlā was used both in a broader sense, as a synonym of Vaṅga, and in a narrower sense to denote various parts of it. Harikēlā of this inscription is obviously a variant of the usual form Harikēlā.

The kingdom over which Kāntidēva ruled must, therefore, be located in Vaṅga, though its exact position is difficult to determine. The only other clue in this respect is furnished by the mention of **Vardhamāna-pura** as the city from which the plate was issued. Vardhamāna is the name of a well-known city in West Bengal which gave the name *Vardhamāna-bhukti* to a territorial division in ancient Bengal. As no other city of this name is known in ancient or modern Bengal, the *Vardhamāna-pura* of our plate should be identified with the city of Burdwan, if there is no insuperable objection against it.

The expression **Harikēlā-maṇḍala** led DJ to infer that Kāntidēva "was only a local chieftain of a comparatively small territory (*maṇḍala*) which subsequently (during the supremacy of the Chandra kings) developed and lent its name to the whole of East Bengal". DJ were wrong in thinking that a *maṇḍala* denotes only a small territorial unit. For, this term is also used along with big kingdoms and territorial units as is evidenced by the expressions "*Gauḍa-maṇḍala*"⁵ and "*Varēndrī maṇḍala*"⁶. **Harikēlā-maṇḍala** may, therefore, well denote the whole of Vaṅga.

¹ *Abhidhānachintāmaṇi*, v. 957. [Monier Williams gives 'Harikēlyā' and explains it as the country of Bengal.—C. R. K.]

² Ed. by Gaṇapati Śāstri, pp. 232-33.

³ *Rūpachintāmaṇikōsha* (No. 1451) and *Rudrākṣamāhātmya* (No. 21415).

⁴ Takakusu, *I-tsing*, p. xlii.

⁵ *Rājatarāṅginī*, IV, 148.

⁶ *Rāmacharita* by Sandhyākaranandin, *Kavipraśasti*, v. 1.

proper, i.e., S. and E. Bengal, and the conquest, temporary or permanent, of Vardhamāna by a king of Vaṅga cannot be regarded as improbable. It may be noted in this connection, that according to a Chinese map Harikēla comprises the coastal region between Samatāṭa and Orissa.¹ Further, we know that king Gōvindachandra, who flourished early in the eleventh century A. D., and possibly also other Chandra kings before him, ruled over the whole of E. and S. Bengal right up to the Bhāgīrathī river, and their original kingdom is said to be that of Harikēla.² The two geographical names, Vardhamāna and Harikēla-maṇḍala, therefore, justify the assumption that Kāntidēva was the ruler of Vaṅga, i.e., S. and E. Bengal, and had conquered a portion of W. Bengal, right up to Burdwan, when the present plate was issued. Of course this must be regarded as a tentative theory only, based on the very insufficient data that are available at present.

There can hardly be any doubt that the collapse of the Pāla power in the second half of the ninth century A. D., caused by the Pratihāra invasions, gave opportunity to Kāntidēva (or his maternal grandfather who is described in l. 7 as a great king) to carve out an independent kingdom in E. and S. Bengal. It is also likely that Kāntidēva ruled over both his own territory, Harikēla, and the kingdom of his maternal grandfather which probably included Vardhamāna. It is to be noted that Rāḍhā (W. Bengal) and Vaṅga (S. and E. Bengal) constituted separate independent states almost throughout the Pāla period after the death of Dēvapāla, though they were occasionally brought into subjection by powerful rulers like Mahīpāla I and Rāmapāla.

Kāntidēva was undoubtedly a Buddhist as the title *Saugata* is applied to him (l. 14). The seal of the plate is, however, somewhat unique. The figure of the lion enshrined in a temple evidently stands for the Buddha, and we meet with lions in exactly the same pose, carved under Buddha images.³ But the figures of two serpents are not, so far as I know, found along with the lion in Buddhist images. If we remember that the serpent and the lion are the symbols of the two last Jaina *Tīrthamkaras*, Pārśvanātha and Mahāvīra, the seal might be regarded as a Jaina symbol.⁴ The invocation to Jinendra which means both Mahāvīra and the Buddha, might also lend support to the view that the king was Jaina. But the expression *Saugata*, applied to Kāntidēva, definitely precludes this view, as it can only mean a Buddhist, and not a Jaina. It is also possible that the serpents are used here as symbols of Śiva, for we know that

¹ The map is printed at the end of Vol. II of the French Translation of Hiuen Tsang's Records by S. Julien. It is entitled "Map of Central Asia and India published in Japan in 1710 on the basis of (or in accordance with) the accounts of Fa-Hien and Hiuen Tsang".

² Rāmpāl plate of Śrichandra, v. 5 (*Inscriptions of Bengal*, Vol. III, by N. G. Majumdar, pp. 4, 7). The verse, as interpreted by Dr. R. G. Basak (above, Vol. XII, p. 141) means that the founder of the Chandra royal family was the chief support of the king of Harikēla, which he ultimately occupied. In any case there is no doubt that the Chandras came into the possession of the kingdom of Harikēla. It may be noted that the Chandra kings, like Kāntidēva, were Buddhists. It is very probable that the Chandras succeeded Kāntidēva's family in the kingdom of Harikēla.

³ Cf. e.g., the image of Bōdhisattva (Buddha) in the Mathurā Museum (Coomaraswamy, *Hist. Ind. Indonesian Art* fig. 84).

⁴ Mr. T. N. Ramachandran, Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, informs me that a *motif* "almost similar" to that on the seal "occurs on a Digambara Jaina Nava-Dēvatā (metallic) plate now in the Tiruparuttikunram temple, Kāñchīpuram" (Cf. *Tiruparuttikunram and its Temples* by T. N. Ramachandran, Pl. XXXVI, fig. 2).



(From a photograph).

2 मूसा प्रियहय मूसावाग उ वरुमाक परवा मका उ
 2 सोपमं वक्रि र ले ब पविश मा मूसा नावकार पमल मकलं वि 2
 4 लोक कालु लोक मकय अकय वामार सुवीर मारु वि मर 4
 4 युजयि विरुक्तुः ॥ न मूक विरि त ग कि रू मू यो कि वि विरि त वि 4
 6 मयः । मकय वि प म कर नः श्रुतः श्री म म नो यः ॥ न मू म 6
 6 म वि न मार न प ग म म म य गा व वि न क यः का म मी प म म नः 6
 8 प्र क वि न य म म म यो यो सु उ ॥ न मू मी म म म म म म म म 8
 8 उ म म म म म वि वि म वि म म म म म म म म म म म म म म 8
 10 वि म 10
 10 य पा हु प्र ना यो म म म म म म म म म म म म म म म म म म 10
 12 म 12
 12 य म 12
 14 का म 14
 14 म 14
 16 म 16
 16 म 16

the mother of Kāntidēva was a devotee of that great God.¹ In any case it is noteworthy that the combination of lion and serpents is not met with in the seals of any other royal family in Bengal.

TEXT.

[Metres : v. 1, *Vasantatilakā* ; vv. 2—3, *Āryā* ; vv. 4, 6, *Ślōka* ; v. 5, *Śārdūlavikrīḍita*.]

- 1 Ōm² Svasti [||*] Śrīmaj-jaya-skandhāvārāt **Varddhamāna-pura**-vāsakāt [||*]
- 2 Yō dharma-ratna-kiraṇair=apavidhya sāndra[ni*] mōh-āndhakāra-paṭalam sakalam tri-
- 3 lōkam | ālōka-lōkam=anayat=sa jayaty=udāra(rō) durvāra-Māra-visara-
- 4 sya jayī Jinēndraḥ || [1*] Tad-bhakti-valita-śaktir= bhuja-dvay-aurjitya-vijita-ripu-
- 5 darpaḥ | sa jayati dharm-aika-rataḥ khyātaḥ śrī-**Bhadradatō(ttō)** yaḥ || [2*] Tasya su-
- 6 bhāshita-Bhārata-Purāṇa-Rāmāyaṇ-ārtha³-vit-tanayaḥ [| *] nāmnā śrī-Dhanadattaḥ
- 7 prakaṭita-mahim-ānvayō yō bhūt || [3*] Tasya gaurī mahābhūbhṛit-sutā vu(bu)dha-
- 8 guru-stutā [| *] patnī **Vindurati**=nāma yā va(ba)bhūva Śiva-priyā || [4*] Tasyā bhōga⁵-
- 9 nidāna-dāna-salilair=ārdrikṛit-ōrjad-bhuja-sphūrjad-vajra-va(ba)l-ārjit-āji-vija-
- 10 ya-prājya-pratāpō mahān | saumyaḥ sūnṛita-vāg-arāti-bhaya-kṛid-vikhyāta-
- 11 kīrttir=yaśō jyōtsnā-hāra-tushāra-kunda-dhavalam yō yātavān=ātmajaḥ || [5*]
- 12 Yaś=cha kurvañ=jagat-tushtyai hiranya-kaśishu(pu)-kshayam | n=āvalamvi(mbi)tavān=mā-
- 13 yān=dāna-vārir=api prabhuḥ || [6*] Sa khalv=akhila-jana-manō-bhirām-ābhigāmi-
- 14 k-ānēka-guṇa-ratna-bhūshaṇaḥ | Paramasaugatō mātā-pitṛi-pā-
- 15 d-ānudhyātaḥ Paramēśvarō Mahārājādhirājaḥ śrīmāna(n) **Kā-**
- 16 **ntidēvaḥ** kuśali | **Harikēlā**-maṇḍalē bhāvi-bhūpatimis=tad-ātma-hi-
- 17 tam=idam vō(bō)dhayati viditam=astu vaḥ |

¹ Vindurati must have been quite an influential personality in her husband's family who were Buddhists. She herself was a devotee of Śiva and continued as such even after her marriage. She did even more. The inscription describes her husband not as one well versed in the *Tripitaka*, but as one well versed in the *Mahābhārata*, the *Purāṇas* and the *Rāmāyaṇa*. This acquisition on Dhanadatta's part may be ascribed to his wife's influence on him. This would again depict her as a very strong character. It was, perhaps, to preserve each other's tolerance that neither had the other converted to his or her own religious creed. Viewed in this light, the composite character of the seal, affixed to the copper plate, exhibiting both Bauddha and Śaiva emblems, becomes plain. I am indebted to Dr. B. Ch. Chhabra for this suggestion. [It may be noted that Buddha himself is seated on a serpent couch and in one instance is flanked by a lion on each side : see, Longhurst, *Bud., Ant., of Nāgārjunikonda*, A. S. Memoir, No. 54, plates XI (c) and XXIII (b). Five-hooded *nāgas* are also prominently figured on Buddhist pilasters, *ibid.*, plate XXV, figures b and c.—C. R. K.]

² Expressed by a symbol.

³ This *ya* looks more like *yō*, the medial *ō* being similar to that found in *jyōtsnā* below in l. 11.

⁴ DJ. read *tha* and then corrected it to *rtha*. The letter is, however, really *rtha*.

⁵ DJ. read *bhāga* but *bhōga* is clear. The translation of DJ is accordingly faulty.

TRANSLATION.

(L. 1) Om ! Hail ! From his residence, the royal camp of victory (or capital) at the city of Vardhamāna :—

(V. 1) Victorious is Jinendra (Buddha) who triumphed over the vast, irresistible forces of Māra and brought all the three worlds into the domain of light by having dispelled the dense mass of darkness (*caused by*) passion (*mōha*) by means of the ray of the jewel (*which was*) religion (*dharma*).

(V. 2) Victorious is he who is known as Śrī-Bhadradatta and solely devoted to religion ; (*who*) humbled the pride of enemies by conquering (*them*) by means of the strength of his pair of arms, and whose prowess was increased through devotion to the Buddha.

(V. 3) He had a son named Śrī-Dhanadatta who was well-versed in the meaning of witty sayings, the *Bhārata* (i.e., the *Mahābhārata*), the *Purāṇas* and the *Rāmāyaṇa*, and whose glory was always manifest.

(V. 4) His wife, named Vindurati, was fair in complexion, the daughter of a great king, praised by the learned and the elderly persons, and a favourite of Śiva.¹

(V. 5) Her son, who acquired great splendour by victory in battles gained by the strength of thunder (or thunder-like destructive weapon) shining from his hands rendered vigorous by being moistened with the water (*poured on the occasion of making*) gifts which were the causes of his enjoyment ; who was noble, charming, truthful and pleasant in speech, and cause of the terror of the enemies ; whose glory was well known, and who was possessed of fame, as white as moonlight, necklace (*of pearls*), snow and *kunda* (flower).

(V. 6) Who, the lord, spent gold, food and clothing for the satisfaction of the world, and had always water for gifts, but never took resort to fraud.²

L. 13. Now, he, who was decorated (endowed) with many jewels of virtues, and inviting and agreeable to the hearts of all the people ; the great devotee of Sugata (Buddha), who meditated on the feet of his parents ; *Paramēśvara Mahārājādhirāja*, the illustrious *Kāntidēva*, being in good health, informs as follows the future kings of *Harikolā-maṇḍala*, for the sake of their own welfare : " Be it known to you ".

✓ No. 46.—A NOTE ON THE BAJAUR CASKET OF THE REIGN OF MENANDER.

By DINES CHANDRA SIRCAR, M.A., Ph.D., CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

Some Kharōshthī inscriptions on a damaged steatite casket, found at Shinkot in the Bajaur tribal territory, have been published in this journal³ by the late Mr. Nani Gopal Majumdar. There are **two dates** in the record. The first of them is a year of the reign of the *Mahārāja Minedra* (*Minendra*)⁴ who has been identified with the Indo-Greek king Menander.

¹ The epithets given to Vindurati also apply to Durgā who was *Gaurī* (by name), *mahābhūhrit-sutā* (the daughter of the great mountain, i.e., the *Himālaya*), *Budhaguru-stutā* (praised by the preceptor of Gods) and *Śiva-priyā* (spouse of Śiva).

² The poet means to convey that although the king resembled Vishṇu, he did not, like the latter, take resort to fraud. The resemblance is based on the applicability to Vishṇu of the expressions *Hiranyakaśipu-kṣaya* (destruction of *Hiranyakaśipu*) and *Dānav-āri* (enemy of demons).

³ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 1 ff.

⁴ Mr. Majumdar ignores the *e*-sign of *ne* in *Minedrasa*. I am inclined to take *Minendra* as a perfectly Sanskritized form of the Greek name. Other Indian forms are *Mēndra* of the coins and *Milinda* and *Milindra* of literature.

Unfortunately, however, the portion of the casket that contained the date, is broken and lost. The second date is *Year 5*; but there is no reference to the reign of any king. Mr. Majumdar, chiefly on palaeographic grounds, divided the inscribed passages of the record into two groups and pointed out that the two dates referred to above belong to the two different groups. It was also suggested by him that "the difference in age between the two sets of inscriptions was probably a little more than fifty years". He assigned the first date referring to the reign of Menander to the second century B. C. but the second date, i.e., *Year 5* of an unspecified reign, to the first century B. C.¹ I am, however, inclined to believe that both the dates belong to Menander's reign and that the first date is a year falling between the accession and the fifth regnal year of the king.

According to Mr. Majumdar, the first group of the inscribed passages consisting of sections A, A-1, A-2 and B has letters formed by bold and deeply incised strokes, while in the second group containing sections C, D and E, the writing is shallow and the letters are smaller in size. Group I again has the cerebral *n* with a rounded head; but in group II, it shows an acute angle in its head. Further, in the former group, dental *n* has a long sweep in the top curve, while in the latter it has taken the angular or hook-like appearance. The dental *s* is of the closed type in group I; but in group II, it is open-mouthed, that is to say, it shows a gap at the upper left side of the crowning loop. Mainly on these grounds, the two groups have been placed by Mr. Majumdar more than half a century apart from each other. His theory was also influenced by the use of the word *sakamuni* in group I and of *sakimuni* in group II, and also by the passage *sa sariatri kaladre* occurring in the latter group. Mr. Majumdar seems to have further considered the fact that Menander's reign is usually assigned by numismatists to the second century B. C., while Vijayamitra's coins are said to bear the legend in Brāhmī characters of the first century B. C. Let us examine these points one by one.

Deeply incised strokes are a peculiarity only of section A. The size of letters in E is at least as big as that of the letters of any section of group I. The size of letters, moreover, is of little importance when passages of a particular record are incised in different sections.² The head of the cerebral *n* in *prāṇa-sameda* of A-2 (as also in *prāṇa-sameda* of A) is angular and not round. In C, line 1, Mr. Majumdar reads *vijayamitra*.....; but there is a *n* with the lower part of two following letters quite clear after that passage. It is interesting to note that the head of this *n*, though a little damaged, appears to be the only instance of the round-headed cerebral *n* in the whole inscription.³ It may be noticed in this connection that the head of *a* is usually round; but sometimes it is angular,⁴ and sometimes *a* is hardly distinguishable from *v*.⁵ As regards the dental *n*, we have three types slightly differing from one another. *N* in *sakamunisa* of A-2 (which is practically of the same type as *n* in *minedrasa* of A) shows a little less curved neck than the *n*-s of all the sections excepting E. In E, *n* has an angle about the middle of the upper curve. Closed dental *s* is peculiar to A; but the mouth of *s* in *prāṇa-sameda* of A-2 is only half-closed (=half open). It is usually half closed in D; but in a few cases the open-mouthed type is also noticed. In *veśrakhraśa masasa divasa*, only the third *s* is fully open-mouthed. But the most interesting point is that none of the two *s*-signs in B (which belongs to group I according

¹ *Op. cit.*, p. 2.

² Compare, e.g., the Bhaṭṭiprōlu Casket Inscriptions (above, Vol. II, ff. 323 ff. and plates) and the Mathurā Lion Capital Inscriptions (C. I. I., Vol. II, part i, pp. 30 ff. and plates).

³ Round-headed *n* cannot be an indication of early date. It is found in the inscriptions of the Seytho-Kushāṇas and in the Central Asian documents.

⁴ Cf. *bhadrāo* in section D, line 1.

⁵ Cf. *apomua* in section D, line 2.

to Mr. Majumdar) is of the closed type. The above observations would show that the grouping of the inscribed passages into two broad groups with a difference of more than fifty years between them is rather difficult to justify. There are of course reasons to believe that more than one man were responsible for the engraving of the passages. If, however, B is to be grouped with A, it is not even impossible to suggest that one man incised the two groups in different periods. As regards the form *śakimuṇi*, it may be noted that in Central Asian Kharōṣṭhī documents both *arōgi* and *arōgiya* for *ārōgya* are sometimes found in the same inscription.¹

We now come to section D which contains the passage *sa śariatṛi kaladre*. The section reads : *ime śarira paḷuga-bhudrao na sakare atrita [| *] sa śariatṛi kaladre [| *] no² śadhro na piṇḍoyakeyi pitri grīṇayatri [| *] tasa ye patre apomua³ vashaye pañchamaye 4 1 Veśrakhrasa masasa divasa⁴ pañchaviśraye iyo pratrithavitre Vijayamitrena apracharajena bhagravatu Śakimuṇisa Sama-sambudhasa śarira [| *]*. Mr. Majumdar translates : “ This corporeal relic having been broken is not held in worship with zeal. It is decaying in course of time, (and) is not honoured ; (and here) by the offering of alms and water ancestors are no longer propitiated : (and) the receptacle of that (relic) has been cast aside. (Now) in the fifth year and on the twenty-fifth day of the month of Vaiśākha, this has been established by Vijayamitra, ‘ who has no king as his adversary ’,—(namely) the corporeal relic of the lord Śakimuṇi (i.e., Śākyamuni), the one who is truly enlightened.”⁵

I am inclined to suggest some modifications in Mr. Majumdar’s translation. *Na sakare atrita*=Sanskrit *na satkāreṇa* (or, *satkāraiḥ*) *āḍṛitam*, “ has not been honoured by homages ”. This seems to refer to the fact that the relic established by Vijayamitra (Viryakamitra⁶) which was broken, had never been worshipped. It should also be remembered that if homages are once begun to be paid, they are never easily discontinued. As regards *na grīṇayatri*, I would prefer “ is not propitiated ” instead of Mr. Majumdar’s “ no longer propitiated ”. *Sa śariatṛi kaladre*=Sanskrit *tat śīryatē kālataḥ*, “ it is decaying in course of time ”. By “ time ” Mr. Majumdar means a period of more than fifty years. But a relic well preserved in a stone casket would not literally decay even in by far longer a period. The verb *śīryatē* is therefore used in a broader sense to mean “ is wasting away without being cared for ”, just like the Bengali verb *nash/a-hawā*, literally “ to decay ”, but actually “ to be without (proper) use ”. *Śīryatē* seems to be used to emphasize the absence of worship and the want of persons devoted to the relic established by Viryakamitra and to justify Vijayamitra’s action in taking away the casket. *No śadhro*=Sanskrit *no (=na) śraddhaḥ* “ nobody is respectful (towards the relic) ”. The word *śraddha* usually means the person having respect and not the thing respected. According to Mr. Majumdar, *apomua* corresponds to Sanskrit *apamukta*, ‘ cast aside ’ ; but in that case the *o*-sign cannot be explained. I prefer *avamukta*, ‘ taken away ’, or better *avamuktivā=avamuchya* ‘ having taken away ’. *Tasa ye patre apomua* may then be translated : “ after having taken away the receptacle of (or, from) that

¹ See, e.g., Boyer-Rapson-Senart, *Kharōṣṭhī Inscriptions*, Vol. I, No. 288 : Sircar, *Select Inscriptions*, p. 242.

² Mr. Majumdar reads *na* : but the *o*-sign seems to be clear both in his plate and in the original now in the Indian Museum, Calcutta. Mr. Majumdar does not prefer a full stop after *kaladre*.

³ Mr. Majumdar prefers a full stop after *apomua*. His plate suggests *piṇḍoyakeyi* for *piṇḍoyakeyi* which, however, seems to be the reading of the original.

⁴ Read *divase*. Mr. Majumdar reads *divasa-pañchaviśraye*.

⁵ *Op. cit.*, p. 8.

⁶ [Why not *Vaiśakhamitra*?—C. R. K.]

(relic)". The word *iyo* corresponds to Sanskrit *iha*, "at this place"¹ and not to *idam*, "this, namely, the relic" as suggested by Mr. Majumdar. The last sentence of Section D of the Bajaur inscription may therefore be translated: "after having taken away the receptacle from that (broken relic previously established by *Vīryakamitra*), a (new) relic of the lord Śākyamuni, the perfectly enlightened one, has been established here by the *apratyakrāja* Vijayamitra on the twenty-fifth day of the month of Vaiśākha in Year 5". *Apratyakrāja* means a king having no equal, i.e., an unrivalled king.² This title is applied both to *Vīryakamitra* and to *Vijayamitra*. As *Vīryakamitra*, who used the year of Menander's reign, was very probably a feudatory of the Indo-Greek king, *apratyakrāja* appears to be a feudatory title. Like the first date of the inscription, Year 5 thus seems to refer to the reign of the overlord and not to that of *Vijayamitra* as taken by Mr. Majumdar.³ The overlord was apparently Menander whose name has already been mentioned once in the record and has therefore not been repeated.

What seems to me to be the fact is that *Vīryakamitra* died soon after he had established the casket. He may have had a wish to replace the broken relic by a fresh one; but death seems to have stood in his way. A fresh relic for that casket was secured by his immediate successor (probably his son), *Vijayamitra* who took away the casket, put a fresh relic into it and established it with the usual ceremony. The difference between the two events need not have been more than four or five years, and I am inclined to assign both of them to the period covered by the first five years of Menander's reign. *Vīryakamitra* in his later years and *Vijayamitra* in his earlier years were probably feudatories of the Indo-Greek king.

As regards the date of Menander, it must be admitted that no definite assertion is possible in the present state of our knowledge. Indian tradition ascribes him to a period five hundred years after the *parinirvāṇa* of the Buddha.⁴ But no date can be calculated from this tradition, as "five hundred" is a round number and as there is a large number of traditional dates for the Buddha's *parinirvāṇa*. If we accept the Ceylonese date of 544 B. C., we arrive at about the middle of the first century B. C.⁵ Numismatists usually assign Menander to about the middle of the second century B. C. It must, however, be remembered that no less an authority than Gardner placed him in *circa* 110 B. C.⁶ Elsewhere⁷ I have tentatively assigned Menander's reign to the period *circa* 115-90 B.C. If this date is accepted the Bajaur inscriptions may be ascribed to about the end of the second century B.C. There is then no difficulty in assigning the coins of *Vijayamitra*, who may have had a long reign extending beyond Menander's death, to the first quarter of the first century B.C.

¹ Cf. *garuḍa-dhvaje ayaṁ kārīte ia heliodoreṇa*, lines 1-2 of the Besnagar pillar inscription (Rapson, *Ancient India*, p. 157).

² Elsewhere I have suggested "a king who is not equal to the Mahārāja", i.e., a feudatory ruler. See Sircar, *Select Inscriptions bearing on Indian History and Civilisation* (in the press). p. 104.

³ *Op. Cit.* p. 5, 5.

⁴ Cf. *mama parinibbāṇato pañca-vassa-sate atikkante ete upajjissanti* (Trenckner, *Milindapañho*, p. 3).

⁵ Prof. H. C. Raychaudhuri (*Political History of Ancient India*, 4th ed., p. 323) prefers this date. He is inclined to place Menander later than Heliokles, Strato I and Strato II.

⁶ Smith, *Early History of India*, 4th ed., p. 258.

⁷ *Select Inscriptions* (in the press), p. 102. The letter *s* in the Bajaur record seems to indicate a transitional stage which is possibly to be placed a little later than the early Indo-Greek period.

No. 47.—A COPPER-PLATE GRANT OF CHALUKYA VIJAYADITYA ; ŚAKA 632.

By H. D. SANKALIA, M.A., LL.B., Ph.D., POONA.

The copper-plate grant which is edited here for the first time belonged originally to the Satara Museum. It was presented to that Museum by Rao Saheb S. K. Duduskar of Satara. Since this Museum was closed down by the Government of Bombay in 1938-39 and its collection transferred to the newly opened Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute at Poona, the plates are now exhibited in the Museum of this Institute. For a long time the writer was under the impression that the grant had been published before and so no attempt was made to edit it. Subsequent inquiry, however, showed that it had not been published in any of the known research journals. Hence it is now edited.

The grant is engraved on three copper-plates. Of these the first and the third plates are engraved on the inner side only. The plates seem to have been cleaned, subsequent to the presentation, because at present there are no signs of rust except at a few places. They are broken and effaced at several places. Each plate measures about $9\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The ring, which originally fastened the plates, is almost round, having a diameter of 3 inches. The seal attached to it is oval, 1.7 inches in length and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth with a figure of *varāha* in relief, facing left. The plates weigh $77\frac{1}{2}$ *tolas* and the ring with the seal $48\frac{1}{2}$ *tolas*. Plate I has 12 lines of writing of which large portions of lines 1, 2, 10, 11 and 12 are obliterated. Plate II (a) has 10 lines of writing. This is inscribed clearly in a bold hand, but a few letters, particularly of lines 1 and 2 are filled with verdigris. Plate II (b) has also 10 lines of writing and is the best preserved part of this grant. Plate III has 12 lines of writing. The letters in the first 8 lines are small and crowded together, making the reading difficult, whereas a few letters have become indistinct in the last line.

So far fourteen inscriptions of *Vijayāditya* are published. Of these seven are copper-plates.¹ In these, except for the grant portion, the text of the inscription is almost identical with that of our plate.

As usual the entire grant is in Sanskrit and in prose but for the benedictory and imprecatory verses.

The script is of the South-Indian variety, identical in almost all respects with that noticed in other records of the Chālukya family. Attention is, however, drawn to different types of *la*, cf. *sakala*, l. 2, *sakalōtta*, lines 7 and 17, *nikkila*, line 21, *bala*, line 16, *sakala*, line 30, *vilasiṭa*, line 38, *Gaulu*., line 35, *chāñchala*, line 38, *phala*, line 41 and *pāla*, line 41, *kulam=alam*, line 4, *Pulakēṣi*, line 5 and *maṇḍala*, line 6, *lāñchhana*, line 4, and *Chalikyānām*, line 4, *samunmūlita*, line 21, and several times in *vallabha*, lines 5, 7, 9, 14, 19, 31. Dravidian *ḷa* is met with in *pālidhvaja*, lines 18, 25, and *paḷāyamānair=*, line 26. Initial *i* is found in *iva*, line 28, and the sign for *upadh-mānīya* in °*rasikaḥ=parānmukhi*° in l. 24, *paraiḥ=paḷāyamānair=*, lines 25-26 and in *viśvambharaḥ=prabhur*° in l. 28. The final *m* is usually changed to *anusvāra*, and the consonant reduplicated after *r*.

The grant is dated on the *Kārttika paurṇimā* of Śaka 632, in the 14th year of the rule of the Chalukya king *Vijayāditya*, *Satyāśraya Śrī-Prithivīvallabha Mahārājādhirāja Paramēśvara Bhaṭṭāraka*. It records the donation of a village, named *Kāruva*, near *Karahāṭanagara*, on the bank of the *Kṛishṇa[-Venṇā]*, and a field called..... -*pattikā*² measuring

¹ Six of these are published as under :—*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. IX, pp. 125, 130, 132; above, Vol. X, p. 14; *Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol. IV, p. 425; *Bhārata Itihāsa Sanshodhaka Mandala Quarterly*, Vol. IX, ii, p. 1.

² [See foot-note 1 on p. 326—Ed.].

25 *nivartanas* at Karahāṭanagara, to Bhānudēva(?)śarmman, son of Bhaviśarmma-Gaulusada (?)¹ and grandson of Dāmōdaraśarmman, made by Vijayāditya from his camp of victory at Karahāṭanagara at the request of (prince) Vikramāditya. The grant is written by Mahāsāndhivigrahika Niravadya Puṇyavallabha. It was this very person who also wrote the Rāyagaḍ plates of Śaka 625, the Nerūr grant of Śaka 627, the Ēlāpur plates of Śaka 626 and possibly the Naravan plates of Śaka 664, where the name preceding Puṇyavallabha is read as Śrī-Ativāti.² Thus this writer lived almost conterminously with his master Vijayāditya and also during some part of the reign of his son Vikramāditya II. [He was probably the son of Rāma Puṇyavallabha, the composer of Vinayāditya's grants : see *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. VI, p. 85 and above, Vol. XXII, p. 24. Puṇyavallabha was perhaps their family name.—C. R. K.]

Historically the grant is not very important because it is neither the earliest, nor the latest grant of Vijayāditya. Nor does it give any new information about the political events of that time. Geographically this would be the second grant of Vijayāditya from the Satara District³ and the first grant actually granting a village in that district. Karahāṭanagara, which is also mentioned as Karahāṭa,⁴ is the ancient Karahakāṭa of the early Brāhmī inscriptions from Bharahut,⁵ and the modern Karāḍ.⁶

Kāruva-grāma⁷ is either Koregaon or Karva⁸ about 6 and 4 miles respectively from Karāḍ. Both are on the right bank of the Kṛishṇā. My colleague, Dr. S. M. Katre, tells me that linguistically Karva would be a more probable derivation from Kāruva, but in the case of proper names, he added, one might not expect a very accurate derivation, and Koregaon would not be improbable. Personally I am inclined to identify Koregaon with the Kāruva of the plate, because the map shows some ruins of ancient temples at the place.

Perhaps an earlier reference in Chālukya inscriptions to the river Kṛishṇa-Veṇṇā is in a grant of Vinayāditya.⁹ It refers to, as has been already pointed out,¹⁰ not to the single stream of the Kṛishṇā which rises at Mahābaleshwar but to the combined streams of the Kṛishṇā and Veṇṇā which, after meeting at Sangam-Māhulī, flow as one stream.

TEXT.¹¹

First Plate.

1 [स्वस्ति जयत्यादि]ष्कृतं विष्णोर्व्वराहं क्षोभि[ताण्वं । दक्षिणोत्तरद्व]ष्ट्राप्र[विभान्त]भुवनं
वपुः [॥*] [श्री-

2 मतां स]कलभुवनसंस्तुयमानमानव्यस[गोत्राणां हारिती]पुत्राणां सप्तलोकमातृभिस्स-

¹ [See foot-notes 3 and 4 on p. 325 below.—Ed.]

² *Bhārata Itihāsa Sanshodhaka Mandala Quarterly*, March-June 1929, Vol. X, i, p. 14.

³ The first is the Rāyagaḍ plates, above, Vol. X, p. 14.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 16, probably as a district.

⁵ *Ibid.*, Appendix, Lüders, *List of Brāhmī Inscriptions*, Nos. 705, 763, 767, 809.

⁶ Survey Sheet, No. 47 K/3 and 7.

⁷ [See foot-note 5 on p. 325.—Ed.]

⁸ Survey Sheet, No. 47, K/3 and 7.

⁹ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. VI, p. 88. There the name of the river is spelt as Kṛishṇa-Vārṇā.

¹⁰ *Bombay Gaz.*, Vol. I, part ii, p. 334, n. 2.

¹¹ From the original plates and photographs. Letters broken away or effaced have been restored with the help of the published plates.

- 3 [प्तमात्]भिरभिवद्वितानां कार्त्तिकेयपरिरक्षणप्राप्तकल्या[णपरं]पराणां भगवान्नारा[यण]प्र-
- 4 [सादस]मासादितवराहलाञ्छनेक्ष[ण]वशीकृताशे[ष]मही[भृतां] चालिकयानां कुलमलं-
- 5 क[रि]ण्णोरश्वमेधावभृथस्ता[नप]वित्रीकृतगात्रस्य श्रीपुल[के]शिवल्लभमहाराजस्य
- 6 [सू]नुः पराक्रमाक्रान्तवनवास्यादिपरनृपतिमण्डलप्रणिबद्धविशुद्ध[कीर्तिः]
- 7 [की]र्तिवम्भंपृथिवीवल्लभमहाराजस्तस्यात्मजस्समरसं[स]क्तसकलोत्त-
- 8 [राष]येश्वरश्रीहर्षवद्वंनपराजयोपात्तपरमेश्वरशब्द[स्त*]स्य स[त्या]¹श्रयश्री-
- 9 [पृथिवी]वल्लभमहाराजाधिराजपर[मेश्व]र[स्य] प्रियतनयस्य प्र[ज्ञा]तनय-
- 10 [स्य लङ्ग]मात्रसहायस्य चित्रकण्ठाभिधा[नप्र]वरतुरंगमेणैकेनोत्सारि[ता]-
- 11 [शेषविजिगीषोरवनिपतित्रितयान्तरितां स्व]गुरो[:*] श्रियमात्मसात्कृत्य]
- 12 [प्रभावकुलिशदलितपा]ण्ड्यचोळ²[केरळक]ळभ्रप्रभृतिभू[भृ]-

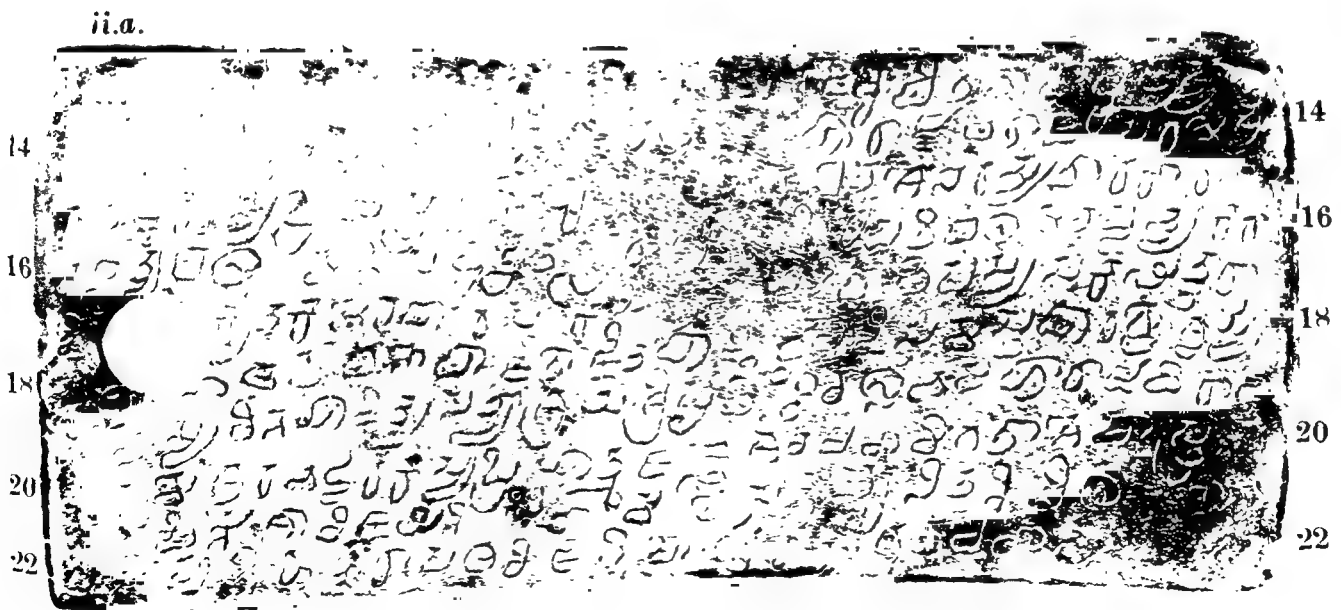
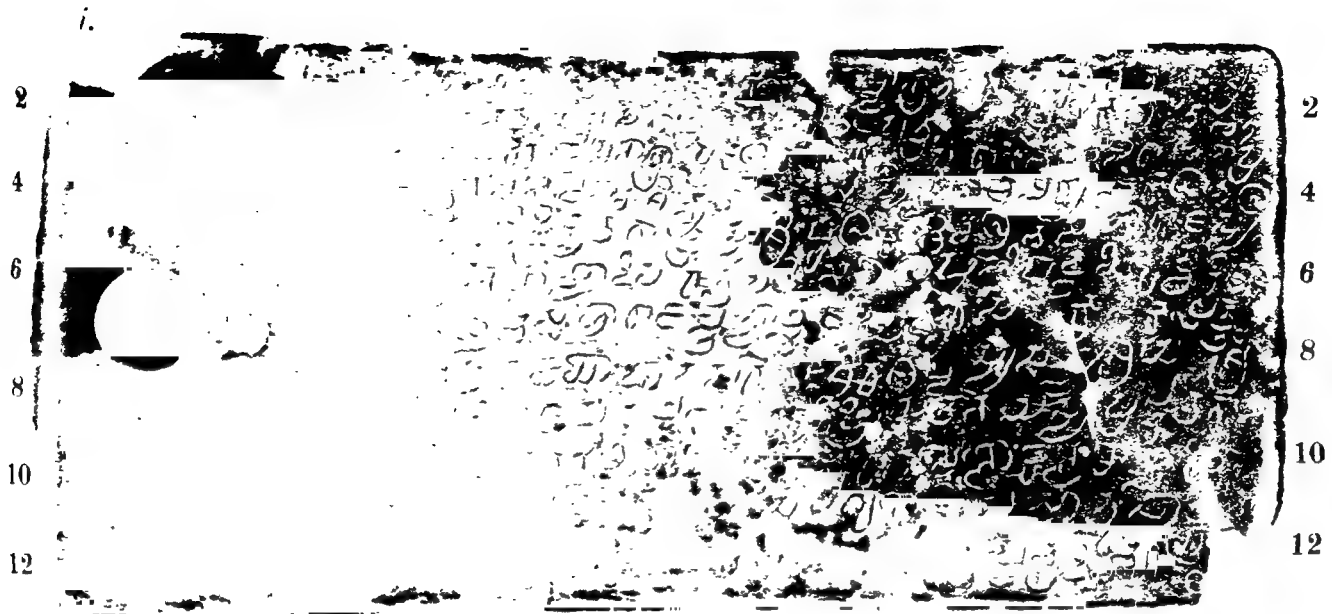
Second Plate ; First Side.


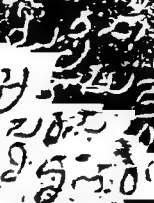
- 13 [ददभ्रविभ्रमस्यानन्या]वनत[काञ्चीपतिमुकु]टचुंबितपादांबुजस्य वि-
- 14 क्रमादित्यसत्याश्र[यश्रीपृथिवी]वल्लभ[म]हाराजाधिराजपरमेश्व-
- 15 रमट्टारकस्य प्रियसू[नो]पि[तु]राज्ञया बा]लेन्दुशेखरस्य तारकारा[ति]रि-
- 16 व दंत्यबलमतिसमुद्धतं [त्रैराज्यकाञ्ची]पतिबलमवष्टभ्य कर-
- 17 दीकृतकमे(वे)रपारसीकसि[हलादि]द्वीपाधिपस्य सकलोत्तरा-
- 18 पयनाथमयनोपाजितोर्जितपाळिष्ठादिसमस्तपारमेश्वर्यं-
- 19 चिह्नस्य विनयादित्यसत्याश्रयश्रीपृथिवीवल्लभमहाराजाधिराज-
- 20 परमेश्वरभट्टारकस्य प्रियात्मजशैशव एवाधिगतशेषास्त्र[शा]-
- 21 [स्त्रो] दक्षिणाशाविजयिनि पितामहे समुन्मूलितनिखिलकण्टक-
- 22 [सं]हतिरुत्तरापयविजिगीषो[गुरोर]प्रत एवाह[वव्यापा]-

¹ There is a crack in the plate here.

² [Reading seems to be Chēra.—N. L. R.]

A COPPER-PLATE GRANT OF CHALUKYA VIJAYADITYA; SAKA 632.



24  
 26
 28
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34
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 44

Second Plate ; Second Side.

- 23 रमाचरन्नरातिगजघटापाटनविशीर्य्यमाणकृपा[णघारस्समन्न]विघ्न-
 24 हाप्रेसरस्सत्साहसरसिक)पराङ्मुखीकृतशत्रुमण्डलो [गंगा]यमुनापा-
 25 लिध्वजपड(पटह)ढका(क्का)महाशब्दचिह्नकमाणिक्यमतंगजादीन्यतृसात्कुर्व्वन्प-
 26 रै)पळायमानंरासाद्य कथमपि विधिवशादपनीतोपि प्रताघ(पा)देव वि[ष]-
 27 यप्रकोपमराजकमुत्सारयन्वत्सराज इवानपेक्षितापरसहायक-
 28 स्तदवग्रहाग्निर्गत्य स्वभुजावष्टंभप्रसाधिताशेषविश्वंभर)प्रभुर-
 29 खण्डितशक्तित्रयत्वात्शत्रुमदभञ्जनत्वादुदारत्वाग्निरवद्यत्वाद्यस्स[म]स्सभु-
 30 वनाश्रयस्सकलपारमेश्वर्य्यव्यक्तिहेतुपाळिध्वजाद्युज्ज्वलप्राज्यराज्यो
 31 विजयादित्यसत्याश्रयश्रीपृथिवीवल्लभमहाराजाधिराज[प]रमे[श्वरभ]-
 32 दृारकस्सर्व्वानेवमाज्ञापयति विदितमस्तु वोस्माभिः द्वात्रिंशदु[त्तरष]-

Third Plate.

- 33 दशतेषु शकवर्षेष्वतोतेषु प्रवर्द्धमानविजयराज्यसंवत्सरे चतुर्द(र्द)[शे] वर्तमाने करहा[टन]ग-
 34 रमधिवसति जयस्कन्धावारे कार्ति(त्ति)कपोणमास्यां विक्रमादित्य¹विज्ञापन[या] — — —
 त्पु[स*] गोत्राय²
 35 दामोदरशर्म्मणः पौत्रः(दाय) गौलुसदभवि³शर्म्मणः पुत्राय भानुदेवशर्म्मणे⁴ कृष्णवे[ष्णान]दी-
 36 पूर्व्वतटस्थः करहाटनगरसमीपस्थः कारुव⁵नामग्रामो दत्तः [१*] — —⁶ करहाटनगरे —

¹ This reading seems to be certain. The following word is probably *viññāpanayā* as suggested here, the whole expression referring to a common Chālukya practice of making a grant at the request of the crown-prince. It must be noted, however, that the word for the 'crown-prince' is omitted here. [Grants were also made at the request of a feudatory or a high officer.—C. R. K.]

² All the letters are much worn out here, but from the traces of a few of them, they probably refer to the name of the Brāhmaṇa's *gōtra*. [Reading is *Ātrēya-gōtrāya*—N. L. R.]

³ This name appears strange, through the reading is certain. [Reading is *Golla-[Sh]aḍagavi-śarmmaṇah*. *Shaḍagavi* here apparently stands for *śhaḍaṅgavid*.—N. L. R.]

⁴ [Reading seems to be *Nāgullaśarmmaṇē*.—N. L. R.]

⁵ [Reading is *Āruē-nāma*.—N. L. R.]

⁶ [Reading is *punaḥ*.—N. L. R.]

- 37 —¹ पट्टिकानाम पञ्चविंशतिनिवर्तनं क्षेत्रं दत्तः(त्तं) [१*] तदागामिभिरस्मद्वंद्यैर[न्यै]श्च
रा[जभि]रायुरैश्व[र्या]-
- 38 दीनां विलसितमचिरांशुचञ्चलमवगच्छद्भिराचन्द्रार्कधराणव[स्थिति]समकालं यशश्च-
- 39 चीमु(षु)भि[ः*] स्वदत्तिनिर्विशेषपरिपालनीयमुक्तञ्च भगवता [वे]द[व्या]सेन व्यासेन [॥*] ब-
- 40 हुभिर्व्वमुघा भुक्ता राजभिस्सगरादिभि[र्य]स्य (भिः । यस्य) यस्य यदा [भूमि]स्तस्य तस्य
- 41 तदा फलं [॥*] स्वन्दातुं सुमहच्छब्दं दुःसमन्यस्य पाल[नं] [१*]दा[नं] वा पाल-
- 42 नं वेत्ति(ति) दानाच्छ्रेयोनुपालनं [॥*] स्वदत्तां परदत्तां वा यो हरे-
- 43 त वसुधरां [१*] षष्टि(ष्टि)वर्षसहस्राणि विष्टा(ष्ठा)यां जाय[ते] कुमिः [॥*] म-
- 44 हा[सा]न्निविग्रहिकथीनिरवद्यपुण्यबल्लभेन लिखित[मिदं शासनं] . . .

No. 48.—EPOCH OF THE GANGA ERA.

By PROF. V. V. MIRASHI, M.A., NAGPUR.

The question of the epoch of the Gāṅga era has been discussed by several scholars during the last sixty years and various dates ranging from A. D. 349-50 to A. D. 877-78 have been proposed as marking the foundation of the era.² The palaeography of early Gāṅga grants dated in that era shows that it must have been founded some time about the end of the fifth and the beginning of the sixth century A. D. Mr. R. Subba Rao, who for the first time worked on some positive data, fixed A. D. 494-95 as the initial year of the Gāṅga era.³ Subsequently, Mr. J. C. Ghosh, working on the dates of some Gāṅga and Kadamba grants came to the conclusion that the Gāṅga era started in A. D. 496.⁴ This conclusion was accepted by Mr. Subba Rao in the paper which he read before the Seventh Oriental Conference in 1933.⁵ But the epoch does not

¹ These letters seem to mention the name of the field, ending in *paṭṭikā*. [Reading seems to be *Āmra*-(*Āmra*)*paṭṭikā*.—N. L. R.]

² For the commencement of the era Mr. G. Ramdas has proposed A. D. 349-50 (*J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 291), Mr. Subba Rao, A. D. 494 (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. V, pp. 267 ff.), Mr. J. C. Ghosh, A. D. 496 (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LXI, pp. 237 ff.), Mr. B. V. Krishna Rao, A. D. 497-98 (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, pp. 19 ff.), Dr. R. C. Majumdar some date between A. D. 550 and 557 (*Ind. Cul.*, Vol. IV, p. 179 ff.), Mr. R. D. Banerji, A. D. 741 (*History of Orissa*, Vol. I, p. 239), Mr. Majumdar, A. D. 772 (*J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. II, pp. 361-62) and Mr. R. Sewell and D. B. S. K. Aiyangar, A. D. 877-78 (*Historical Inscriptions of Southern India*, p. 58.). [See also *A. R. S. I. E.*, 1931-32, p. 45.—C. R. K.]

³ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. V, pp. 272 ff.

⁴ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LXI, pp. 237 ff.

⁵ *Proceedings and Transactions of the Seventh All-India Oriental Conference*, p. 519. In his latest article on the subject (*Proceedings and Transactions of the Tenth All-India Oriental Conference*, pp. 472 ff.), Mr. Subba Rao shifts the initial year of the era to A. D. 509.

suit all cases.¹ Besides, Mr. Subba Rao has not given any further details about the Gāṅga era, viz., whether the years of the era cited in epigraphic records were current or expired and the months *pūrṇimānta* or *amānta* and what were the initial month and *tithi* of the Gāṅga year.² These questions are indeed difficult to settle; for Gāṅga records do not generally give sufficient details for the verification of their dates. They mention, for instance, that certain grants were made on the occasion of lunar or solar eclipses, or *ayanas*, but they do not generally state in what particular months and years these eclipses³ and *ayanas*⁴ occurred. Nor do they mention any week-day, *nakshatra*, etc., in connection with the dates on which the grants were recorded.⁵ The absence of such details has led to a great divergence of opinion. Mr. G. Ramdas, for instance, rejects the Śaka year 419 as the initial year of the Gāṅga era, because a certain solar eclipse did not occur in a particular year calculated according to that epoch,⁶ while Mr. J. C. Ghosh justifies his epoch of the era on the ground that though in certain cases the solar eclipses did not occur in the particular years, they occurred in the preceding years.⁷

¹ See, for instance, the dates of the Santa-Bommāli plates of Nandavarman, the Pondūru plates of Vajrahasta II and the Indian Museum plates of Dēvēndravarman, discussed below. All these would appear irregular according to this epoch.

² In his article on the Gāṅga era in *Ind. Cul.*, Vol. II, pp. 508 ff., Mr. J. C. Ghosh has attempted to prove that the era commenced on the *pūrṇimānta* Śrāvaṇa va. di. 1 in A. D. 496. But the only definite evidence which he cites in favour of his view is the date of the Siddāntam plates (above, Vol. XIII, pp. 213 ff.). Other dates can as well be explained according to the epoch fixed in the present article, and one date definitely goes against Mr. Ghosh's epoch as admitted by him. As regards the date of the Siddāntam plates, the grant recorded in them was made on the occasion of the Dakṣiṇāyana and the plates were issued on Śrāvaṇa va. di. 5. Mr. Ghosh says that the date of the grant and that of the issue of the plates were identical, viz., the 21st June, A. D. 691, which, according to him, proves his epoch. According to my calculations, however, the dates were not identical. In A. D. 691-92, which, according to Mr. Ghosh, corresponds to the Gāṅga year 195, the *tithi pūrṇimānta* Śrāvaṇa va. di. 5 no doubt fell on the 21st June A. D. 691 as it ended 20 h. 25 m. after mean sunrise that day, but the Karkataka *saṅkrānti* occurred next day (the 22nd June, A. D. 691) 16 h. 45 m. after mean sunrise. As the plates could not have been issued before the *saṅkrānti*, Mr. Ghosh's epoch is impossible. As regards the date of the Urlām plates, (above, Vol. XVII, pp. 332 ff.) on which he relies for proving that the months of the Gāṅga era were *pūrṇimānta*, it may be pointed out that it conflicts with the date of the Pondūru plates (discussed below, p. 329) which mentions a week-day and is therefore quite definite. We must therefore suppose that in 1.23 of the Urlām plates the mention of the fortnight was inadvertently omitted.

³ The only exceptions so far known are the dates of the Chicacole plates of Indravarman III (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIII, pp. 120 ff.) and the Indian Museum plates of Dēvēndravarman (above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 73 ff.). For the reading of the latter, see below p. 329.

⁴ The Chicacole plates of Dēvēndravarman mention the lunar month and *tithi* in connection with *Udagayana*, but if *Udagayana* means *Uttarāyana-saṅkrānti*, the date is impossible, see above, Vol. IV, p. 131, n. 2.

⁵ The only exception so far known is the Pondūru grant of Vajrahasta II (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, pp. 7 ff.)

⁶ *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 280.

⁷ *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LXI, p. 238.

The latest attempt to fix the epoch of the era is that of Mr. B. V. Krishna Rao.¹ From the scanty material available Mr. Krishna Rao has tried to prove that—

- (1) the Gāṅga era commenced in the Śaka year 419 (A. D. 497-98)
and (2) the Gāṅga year began on the *amānta* Bhādrapada bahula 13.

According to Mr. Krishna Rao therefore the era commenced on Bhādrapada va. di. 13 in the Śaka year 419 (Monday, the 11th August, A. D. 497). He has examined the dates of 10 Gāṅga records² and claimed that they can be satisfactorily explained according to his epoch of the era. He has shown that in most cases the solar eclipses occurred in the particular years of the Gāṅga era, while in one case only,³ the eclipse occurred a few months before the commencement of the particular Gāṅga year. As the Chicacole plates of Indravarman III dated Gn. 128 show, these grants were sometimes recorded some months after they were actually made. So the result may be held to be satisfactory.

There are, however, certain difficulties presented by this epoch, which Mr. Krishna Rao has not noticed. In this article on this subject in *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, pp. 19 ff., Mr. Krishna Rao has stated in several places that the Gāṅga era commenced in the expired Śaka year 419. He has also conjectured that the Gāṅga year commenced on *amānta* Bhādrapada va. di. 13. So in order to convert a Gāṅga year into an expired Śaka year, we must add 418 when the date falls on any *tithi* from the *amānta* Bhādrapada va. di. 13 to Phālguna *amāvāsyā* and 419 when it falls on any *tithi* from Chaitra śu. di. 1 to Bhādrapada va. di. 12. The epoch of the Gāṅga era, i.e., the year immediately before the commencement of the era, should thus be Śaka 418-19. But Mr. Rao has almost throughout applied the epoch Śaka 419-20 to get the equivalent of the Gāṅga dates. See for instance the following—

- (1) Gn. 127 (Mārgaśīrsha full moon)=Ś. 546.
- (2) Gn. 154 (Mārgaśīrsha new moon)=Ś. 573.
- (3) Gn. 221 (Āshāḍha śu. di. 5)=Ś. 641.
- (4) Gn. 251 (Chaitra new moon)=Ś. 671.
- (5) Gn. 304 (Jyēṣṭha „ „)=Ś. 724.
- (6) Gn. 397 (Mārgaśīrsha „ „)=Ś. 816.

One would therefore suppose that he is in favour of applying the epoch Śaka 419-20. But see the following equivalent of the Gāṅga date 500 given by him,⁴ which is possible only with the epoch of Śaka 418-19 :—

- (7) Gn. 500, *Ashāḍha-māsa dina 5, Adityavāra*=Ś. 919 (Sunday, the 13th June, A. D. 997).

Mr. Krishna Rao has not shown how to reconcile this date with the preceding ones. Again

¹ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, pp. 19 ff.

² Nine of these he calculated in his article (*loc. cit.*) and one later on (*ibid.*, Vol. XI, pp. 147 ff.).

³ *Viz.*, the date of the Chicacole plates of Satyavarman, *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIV, pp. 11 ff.

⁴ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, p. 148.

his equivalents of the Santa-Bommāli plates of Indravarman II¹ and the Chicacole plates of Indravarman III² do not appear to be correct even according to his epoch. The question of the commencement of the Gāṅga era must therefore be examined afresh and an epoch proposed which would satisfactorily explain all the published verifiable dates of the era.

Among the dates of the Gāṅga era published so far, that of the Pondūru plates³ is most important as it contains the mention of a week-day. The date, Gn. 500 Āshāḍha-māsa dina 5, Ādityavāra, regularly corresponds to Śaka 919, Sunday, the 13th June, A. D. 997. On that day the fifth *tithi* of the bright fortnight of Āshāḍha ended 3 h. 10 m. after mean sunrise.⁴ This date shows Gn. 500=Ś. 919 and therefore Gn. 0=Ś. 419. It also shows that the month Āshāḍha had begun only four days before, on the first *tithi* of its bright fortnight. This proves that the months of the Gāṅga year were *amānta*.

Let us next take the date of the Indian Museum plates of Dēvēndravarman.⁵ These plates are dated in the Gāṅga year 308. No further details of the date are given, but we learn from line 20 that the plates were intended to record a grant made on the occasion of a solar eclipse in the month of Māgha.⁶ Supposing that the solar eclipse occurred in the same Gāṅga year in which the grant was recorded, we find that the only year which would correspond to Gn. 308 is Śaka 728. In this year there was a solar eclipse in *amānta* Māgha on the 11th February, A. D. 807. It is noteworthy that this is the only solar eclipse in *amānta* Māgha in the period Śaka 711-728. This proves the untenability of the epochs proposed by Messrs. Subba Rao and Krishna Rao. It further corroborates the conclusion we have already drawn, namely, that the months of the Gāṅga year were *amānta*. Now according to this date Gn. 308=Ś. 728 and therefore Gn. 0=Ś. 420.

¹ For the calculation of this date, Mr. Krishna Rao has relied on the reading [Gāṅga] Year 87, Jyēshtha divasa 10, given by Raja Bahadur L. H. Jagadeva in *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. IV, p. 23. Mr. Krishna Rao has supposed that the grant was made on the very day on which it was recorded and that the *tithi* fell on a Wednesday coupled with the *nakshatra* Hasta and the *yōga* Vyatipāta (of which there is no mention at all in the grant). By an elaborate calculation he has shown that this combination of the *tithi*, week-day, *nakshatra* and *yōga* took place on the 24th May, A. D. 584. But according to his epoch mentioned above, this *tithi* in Jyēshtha should fall in A. D. 585, not 584. It is noteworthy that the combination of the *tithi*, etc., does not occur in A. D. 585. Again, the correct reading of the date is *Jyēshtha divasa 30* as recently given by Mr. R. K. Ghoshal (above, Vol. XXV, pp. 194 ff.). The *akshara lō*, which together with 0 here denotes the *tithi*, signifies 3 in other records also. See, e.g., the Chicacole plates of Dēvēndravarman II (*ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 133).

² If the Gāṅga year began in Bhādrapada, there is no reason why the lunar eclipse in Mārgaśīrsha, mentioned in the Chicacole plates dated [Gn.] 128, Chaitra di. 15, should be referred to Gn. 127, for Gn. 128 was current at the time of the eclipse.

³ The date of this grant was read as 100 by Mr. M. Narasimham (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. IX, part iii, pp. 23 ff.) and as 700 by Mr. G. Ramdas (*ibid.*, Vol. XI, p. 12). The correct date given above was first pointed out by Mr. B. V. Krishna Rao (*ibid.*, Vol. XI, p. 147).

⁴ For the verification of the dates, etc., I have used throughout Diwan Bahadur Swamikannu Pillai's *Indian Ephemeris*.

⁵ Above, Vol. XXIII, pp. 73 ff.

⁶ The editor of these plates has not read the *aksharas* after Māgha-māsē in l. 20. There appear clear traces of five *aksharas* after that word, the first two of which are certainly *sūrya* and the last, *n[ē]*. The omitted expression seems therefore to be *sūrya-grahāṇē*.

The third important date is that of the Santa-Bommāli plates of Nandavarman, the son of Anantavarman I.¹ These plates record a grant which was made on the occasion of a solar eclipse in some unspecified month. The plates are dated on *Āshāḍha dina pañchamī* in the [Gāṅga] year 221. On the analogy of the dates of the aforementioned Pondūru and Indian Museum plates, this date may be taken to be the fifth *tithi* of the bright fortnight of the *amānta* Āshāḍha. From the evidence of the Pondūru plates one would expect that the Gāṅga year 221 would correspond to the Śaka year 640. But there was no solar eclipse in that year, nor even in the preceding year. There was, however, one in the *amānta* Jyēshṭha of Śaka 641. The proximity of this eclipse to the date Āshāḍha śu. di. 5 (on which day the grant was recorded) indicates that the equivalent is probably correct. This date shows Gn. 221=Ś. 641 and therefore Gn. O=Ś. 420.

The only way in which we can reconcile the date of the Pondūru plates with those of the Santa-Bommāli and the Indian Museum plates is to suppose that the former date is stated in the current year and the latter two in expired years. Mr. Krishna Rao, who did not notice the possibility of some Gāṅga dates being in current years and others in expired ones, took the aforementioned date of the Santa-Bommāli plates as showing that the Gāṅga and Śaka years were not concurrent and that the Gāṅga year commenced in some month after Jyēshṭha. Such a supposition does not appear to be necessary. In fact the aforementioned dates of the Santa-Bommāli and Indian Museum plates show that the Gāṅga year began in some month before Āshāḍha śu. di. 5 and ended in some month after Māgha. It appears probable therefore that, like the Śaka year, the Gāṅga year also began on *amānta* Chaitra śu. di. 1.

The fourth important date is that of the Chicacole plates² of Indravarman III, viz., *Chaitra di 15* in the [Gāṅga] year 128. In the absence of further details this date does not admit of verification, but in lines 10-11 the plates mention a lunar eclipse which occurred in the month of Mārgaśīrsha. We have seen above that the Gāṅga and Śaka years were probably concurrent. The lunar eclipse must therefore have occurred in Gn. 127. This year, if current, would correspond to Ś. 546 and, if expired, to Ś. 547. In both these years there was a lunar eclipse in the month of Mārgaśīrsha. This date also may therefore be said to corroborate the epoch of the Gāṅga era fixed above.

The foregoing examination of these four Gāṅga dates which contain details for verification has shown that the Gāṅga era began in the expired Śaka year 420 (A. D. 498-99), probably on the first *tithi* of the bright half of the *amānta* Chaitra. To convert a date of the Gāṅga era into that of the Śaka era we have therefore to add 419 if the Gāṅga year was current, and 420 if it was expired. Let us now state in a tabular form all the Gāṅga dates which contain some details for verification to see what was the proportion of current and expired years. It must be remembered in this connection that many Gāṅga records mention a solar eclipse, but give no particulars about the year and month in which it occurred. In such cases the identification of the corresponding Śaka year is likely to be doubtful.

¹ J. A. H. R. S., Vol. II, pp. 185 ff.

² Ind. Ant., Vol. XIII, pp. 120 ff.

Dates of the Gāṅga Era with their equivalents in the Śaka era.

Serial No.	Name of record.	Name of King.	Particulars of the date in the Gāṅga era.	Corresponding Śaka year. ¹	Whether Gāṅga year was current or expired.	Remarks. ²
1	Santa-Bommāli Plates (above, Vol. XXV, pp. 194 ff.)	Indravarman II ³ alias Rājasiṃha.	[Gn.] year 87, Jyēṣṭha divasa 30.	Ś. 507.	Expired.	In Ś. 507, Jyēṣṭha had 30 days (from the 5th May to the 3rd June A.D. 585).
2	Parikīmeḍi Plates (<i>Ind. Ant.</i> , Vol. XVI, pp. 131 ff.)	Indravarman II alias Rājasiṃha.	[Gn.] year 91, Māgha dina trīṇ-śatima, 30.	Ś. 510 or Ś. 511.	Current or expired.	In both these years Ś. 510 and 511 Māgha had thirty days (from the 24th December A. D. 588 to the 22nd January A.D. 589 and from the 12th January to the 10th February A.D. 590 respectively).
3	Chicacole Plates (<i>Ind. Ant.</i> , Vol. XIII, pp. 120 ff.)	Indravarman III ⁴ .	[Gn.] year 128, Chaitra di-15 and a lunar eclipse in the previous Margaśīrsha.	Ś. 547 or Ś. 548.	Current or expired.	There was a lunar eclipse in Margaśīrsha in both Ś. 546 and Ś. 547.
4	Tekkali Plates (above Vol. XVIII, pp. 309 ff.)	Indravarman III, son of Dānārṇava.	[Gn.] year 154, and a solar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 573.	Current.	There was a solar eclipse in Margaśīrsha in Ś. 573 only, none in Ś. 574.
5	Tekkali Plates (<i>Ind. His. Quart.</i> , Vol. XI, pp. 30 ff.)	Dēvendra-varman I, son of Guṇārṇava I.	[Gn.] year 192, and a lunar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 611 or Ś. 612.	Current or expired.	There was a lunar eclipse in Margaśīrsha in both Ś. 611 and 612.
6	Santa-Bommāli Plates (<i>J. A. H. R. S.</i> , Vol. II, p. 187.)	Nandavarman, son of Anantavarman I.	[Gn.] year 221, Āṣāḍha dina pañcama and a solar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 641.	Expired.	There was a solar eclipse in Jyēṣṭha in Ś. 641, none in Ś. 639 and Ś. 640.

¹ The years of the Śaka era given above are all expired.² The months mentioned in the Remarks column are all *amānta*.³ In his Genealogical Table of Early Gāṅga Kings (*Inscriptions of Northern India*, p. 386) Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar does not number this Indravarman.⁴ Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar calls him Indravarman II. having omitted to number Indravarman II as stated in the foregoing note.

Dates of the Gāṅga Era with their equivalents in the Śaka era—*contd.*

Serial No.	Name of record.	Name of King.	Particulars of the date in the Gāṅga era.	Corresponding Śaka year.	Whether Gāṅga year was current or expired.	Remarks.
7	Chicoole Plates (<i>Ind. Ant.</i> , Vol. XIII, pp. 273 ff.)	Dēvēndravarma II, son of Anantavarman I.	[Gn.] year [2] 51 and a solar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 671.	Expired.	There was a solar eclipse in Chaitra in Ś. 671, none in Ś. 670.
8	Alamanda Plate (above, Vol. III, p. 17 ff.)	Anantavarman II, son of Rājēndravarma.	[Gn.] year 304, and a solar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 723 or Ś. 724.	Current or expired.	There was one solar eclipse in Jyēsthā in Ś. 723 and two in Jyēsthā and Mārgaśrīsha in Ś. 724.
9	Indian Museum Plates (<i>Ibid.</i> , Vol. XXIII, pp. 73 ff.)	Dēvēndravarma II, son of Rājēndravarma.	[Gn.] year 308, Māgha-māsē sūrya-grahaṇ[ē].	Ś. 728.	Expired.	There was a solar eclipse in Māgha in Ś. 728 but there was no such solar eclipse in Māgha in the period from Ś. 711 to Ś. 727.
10	Chicoole Plates (<i>Ind. Ant.</i> , Vol. XIV, pp. 10 ff.)	Satyavarman, son of Dēvēndravarma III.	[Gn.] year 351, and a solar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 770.	Current.	There was a solar eclipse in Jyēsthā in Ś. 770, none in Ś. 771.
11	Chidivalasa Plates (<i>J. A. H. R. S.</i> , Vol. II, pp. 146 ff.)	Dēvēndravarma IV, son of Bhūpēndravarma.	[Gn.] year 397 with a solar eclipse in an unspecified month.	Ś. 816 or Ś. 817.	Current or expired.	There were two solar eclipses in Jyēsthā and Mārgaśrīsha in Ś. 816 and also two more in Jyēsthā and Kārtika in Ś. 817.
12	Pondūru Plates (<i>J. A. H. R. S.</i> , Vol. XI, pp. 7 ff.)	Vajrahasta (II).	[Gn.] year 500, Āshāḍha māsa dina 5, Ādityavāra(ē).	Ś. 919 (Sunday, the 13th June, A.D. 997).	Current.	In Ś. 920, the tithi fell on a Thursday.

¹ The symbol for hundreds is omitted here, but as shown by Mr. Krishna Rao (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, pp. 27 ff.), it must have been one for 200.

The above examination of the twelve dates of the Gāṅga era which contain some details for verification has shown that the view that the Gāṅga era was started on Chaitra śu. di. 1 in the expired Śaka year 420 explains all the dates satisfactorily. We found that according to this epoch the eclipses occurred in the respective Gāṅga years (current or expired) mentioned in the records and in two cases even in the specified months, and where the week-day or the number of solar days in a month was given they could be completely verified. Of the twelve dates examined above, three are in current years, four in expired years and the remaining five doubtful, being in either current or expired years. Of the doubtful dates also, a majority is likely to be in expired years; for, as Dr. Sir R. G. Bhandarkar has pointed out, "the Hindu's usual, not invariable, way of expressing a date is not 'in the year so and so', but 'after so many years had elapsed since such and such an event took place.'"¹ Even if we leave these doubtful dates out of account, the expired years of the Gāṅga era are more in number than the current ones, which is in accordance with the practice observed in the case of the dates of the Vikrama,² Śaka,³ Kalachuri⁴ and other eras.

We can therefore conclude that **the Gāṅga era commenced on Chaitra śu. di. 1 in the expired Śaka year 420 (the 14th March, A. D. 498).**

Let us next see if this epoch of the Gāṅga era conflicts with any known data. Certain synchronisms of Gāṅga kings with princes of other dynasties are either known definitely or are conjectured by scholars. We have to see if they can be satisfactorily explained with the present epoch.

1. From the Gōlāvari plates of Prithivīmūla⁵ we learn that the Adhirāja Indra fought in company with other chiefs who united to overthrow a certain Indrabhaṭṭāraka. These plates are dated in the twenty-fifth year of the increasingly victorious reign, apparently of Prithivīmūla.⁶ The date does not contain any details for verification. Dr. Fleet who edited the plates conjectured at first⁷ that the Adhirāja Indra was the king Indravarman of the Gāṅga dynasty who made the Chicacole grant dated [Gn.] year 128. He further identified Indrabhaṭṭāraka defeated by the Adhirāja Indra with Indrarāja, the younger brother of Jayasimha of the Eastern Chālukya dynasty. The name of this Indrarāja is omitted in most Chālukyan records, because, according to Dr. Fleet, he, being slain in this battle, did not ascend the throne.⁸

If this identification is correct, it does not conflict with our epoch of the Gāṅga era; for according to it, the Adhirāja Indra was ruling in Ś. 548 (128+420) and the Eastern Chālukya prince Indrarāja also flourished in the same period as he must have fought the battle during the reign of his elder brother Jayasimha (Ś. 549 to 579 or 582).

¹ *Collected Works of Sir R. G. Bhandarkar*, Vol. III, pp. 288 f.

² *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XX, p. 398.

³ *Ibid.*, Vol. XXV, pp. 266 ff.

⁴ *Ibid.*, Vol. XXIV, pp. 120 ff.

⁵ *J. Bom. Br. R. A. S.*, Vol. XVI, pp. 114 ff.

⁶ The expression *pravardhamāna-vijaya-rājya-samvatsara* which introduces the date in these plates occurs in all the early grants of the Gāṅga kings (with an expression like *Gāṅgāya-rāmā* prefixed to it in the case of some later ones), but this is no sure index of the Gāṅga era, for the expression occurs in the records of other dynasties also. See e.g., ll. 25-6 of the Chikkulla plates of the Viṣṇukunḍin Vikramēndravarman (above, Vol. IV, p. 197; l. 14 of the Ipūr plates of the Viṣṇukunḍin Mādhavavarman, (*ibid.*, Vol. XVII, p. 337; and ll. 21-2 of the Tāṇḍi-vāḍa grant of Prithivī-Mahārāja, *ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 98).

⁷ Later on he identified him with the Gāṅga king Indravarman (II) who issued the Parlākimeḍi grant dated Gn. 91. See *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVI, p. 131.

⁸ Since then, his Koṇḍanagūru grant has been discovered and published (above, Vol. XVIII, pp. 1 ff.).

The identification of Indrabhaṭṭāraka with Indrarāja, the younger brother of Jayasimha, has, however, been called in question, and that perhaps rightly, for, the characters of Prithivimūla's grant appear to be earlier than those of Jayasimha's grants. Prof. Kielhorn suggested that Indrabhaṭṭāraka was identical with the Vishṇukunḍin Indrabhaṭṭārakavarman mentioned in the Chikkulla plates and his view has since then been generally accepted.¹ The identification of the Adhirāja Indra is however more difficult; for though there seems little doubt that he belonged to the Gāṅga dynasty, there were as many as three kings in that dynasty who bore the name Indrarvarman.² Some scholars identify the Adhirāja Indra with the Gāṅga king Indrarvarman I who issued the Jirjīngi plates in Gn. 39, because like the Vishṇukunḍin Indrabhaṭṭāraka, he also is said to have won many battles with four-tusked elephants. The description, however, appears to be conventional; for it occurs in some grants of other dynasties also.³ If we identify the Adhirāja Indra with Indrarvarman II of the Gāṅga dynasty, he becomes a contemporary of the Vishṇukunḍin Indrabhaṭṭārakavarman; for the former was ruling at least from Gn. 87 to Gn. 91 (i.e., from A. D. 585 to 598) and the latter probably flourished from circa A. D. 570 to 600 as shown by me elsewhere.⁴ This synchronism also may therefore be said to be in agreement with the epoch.

2. The Kadamba chief Rāṇaka Dharmakhēḍi, the son of Bhīmakhēḍi, was a feudatory of two Gāṅga kings, Anantavarman and his son Dēvēndrarvarman. His Mandasa plates which were issued during the reign of his suzerain Anantavarman are supposed to be dated Ś. 976 (or 967).⁵ Another grant of his, recorded in the Sīmhīpura (also called Santa-Bommāli) plates⁶ during the reign of Anantavarman's son Dēvēndrarvarman, is dated in the Gāṅga-Kadamba era 520.⁷ According to the epoch fixed above, the latter date would correspond to Ś. 940. This date is earlier by 36 (or 27) years than the date of the Mandasa plates, instead of being later as it should be, since it belongs to the succeeding reign. This is the main reason which has led Dr. R. C. Majumdar to bring down the epoch of the Gāṅga era to some date between A. D. 550 and 557.⁸

This discrepancy, I submit, is solely due to a wrong interpretation of the aforementioned date of the Mandasa plates. This date has been read as *Śak-ābda-nava-śataka-sapta-rasa-mata* which has been taken to denote Ś. 913 by Mr. G. Ramdas and Ś. 976 (or 967) by Dr. R. C. Majumdar. I have no doubt that the intended date is *Śak-ābda-nava-śataka-saptadaśa-mitē*, i.e., Ś. 917. It may be noted that the record has been very carelessly written and engraved. The scribe has confused *śa* and *sa* in several places in it. The facsimile shows that the reading here is *śaptaraśa* (not *sapta-rasa*) which is evidently a mistake for *saptadaśa*.⁹ Perhaps the scribe was unconsciously influenced by the Prakrit of his time which had corrupted Sanskrit

¹ *Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 195. See also Jouveau-Dubreuil's *Ancient History of the Deccan*, p. 91.

² Indrarvarman I was ruling in Gn. 39, Indrarvarman II in Gn. 87-91 and Indrarvarman III in Gn. 128-54.

³ See e.g., the Khāmkhēḍ plates of Pratāpāśīla (above, Vol. XXII, p. 95); Bagumrā plates of Nikumbhalla-śakti (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 267) and the Ellorā plates of Dantidurga (above, Vol. XXV, p. 30).

⁴ Above, Vol. XXII, p. 21.

⁵ *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVII, pp. 175 ff. The expression denoting the date used in this grant is read *Śak-ābda-nava-śataka-sapta-rasa* by the editor Mr. G. Ramdas, who took *sapta-rasa* as denoting 7 plus 6 (*rasa* signifying the number six, because there are six flavours). So according to him the plates are dated Ś. 913. Dr. R. C. Majumdar on the other hand took the same expression to mean 76 (or rather 67 according to the saying *aṅkasya vamaḥ gatiḥ*). According to him therefore the date of the grant is Ś. 976 (or rather, Ś. 967). See *Ind. Cul.*, Vol. IV, pp. 174 ff.

⁶ *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. III, pp. 171 ff.

⁷ The Gāṅga-Kadamba era has been admitted by all scholars to be identical with the Gāṅga era.

⁸ *Ind. Cul.*, Vol. IV, pp. 174 ff.

⁹ It may be noted that the system of word-numerals is not met with in other Gāṅga records of the period. The numerals were then written and read as we do them now.

saptadaśa into *saptarasa*.¹ The date of the Mandasa plates is thus Ś. 917 which agrees admirably with the date Gn. 520 (Ś. 940) of the same chief Dharmakhēḍi's Siṃhīpura grant. The difference between the dates of the two grants is only 23 years which perfectly squares with the fact that the former grant was made by the aforementioned Kadamba chief during the reign of his Gāṅga suzerain Anantavarman and the latter during that of Anantavarman's son Dēvēndravarman.

3. We have seen above that the Gāṅga king Anantavarman's son Dēvēndravarman was ruling in Gn. 520. Another grant recorded in his Chicacole plates² mentions the Gāṅga king Anantavarman's son *Mahārājādhirāja* Madhukāmārṇava as ruling in Gn. 526.³ The proximity of these two dates suggests that Dēvēndravarman was another name of Madhukāmārṇava. Messrs. G. Ramdas and Subba Rao have identified this Gāṅga king Anantavarman with Vajrahasta II *alias* Aniyāṅkabhrma, who had a son named Madhukāmārṇava, on the assumption that all the rulers of the Gāṅga family were called alternately Anantavarman and Dēvēndravarman.⁴ Dr. R. C. Majumdar has, however, objected to this assumption. 'The assumption', he says, 'rests on the fact that for some generations, the Gāṅga kings were named in succession Anantavarman and Dēvēndravarman. But it would be unreasonable to conclude from this that their predecessors were also so named, so long at least as we do not get any satisfactory evidence for the same.'⁵

The necessary evidence is now supplied by the Pondūru grant of Vajrahasta (II). As already stated this grant is dated Gn. 500. It was made by Vajrahasta, the son of Kāmārṇava. As this grant was made 20 years earlier than Dharmakhēḍi's Siṃhīpura grant of Gn. 520 which belongs to the reign of Anantavarman's son Dēvēndravarman, it appears quite plausible that Anantavarman was another name of Vajrahasta (II). From these three grants then we get the following genealogy of these Gāṅga kings :—

Kāmārṇava
|
Vajrahasta *alias* Anantavarman
|
Madhukāmārṇava *alias* Dēvēndravarman

This genealogy is perfectly possible if we identify these princes with Kāmārṇava I, Vajrahasta II and Madhukāmārṇava III mentioned in the Naḍagām, Ganjām and other records of Vajrahasta III.⁶

Here I may anticipate an objection. I have identified above Madhukāmārṇava who was ruling in Gn. 526 with Dēvēndravarman who was on the Gāṅga throne in Gn. 520. But it may

¹ Sanskrit numerals change their *d* into *r* in the Prakrits and modern North-Indian languages.

² *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVIII, pp. 272 ff.

³ Dr. C. Narayan Rao and Mr. Subba Rao read this date as 528. *J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. VIII, p. 170.

⁴ *J. B. O. R. S.*, Vol. XVII, pp. 180-81.

⁵ *Ind. Cul.*, Vol. IV, pp. 175 ff.

⁶ Above, Vol. IV, pp. 183 ff. : XXIII, pp. 67 ff. In fairness to Dr. R. C. Majumdar I must state that this genealogy is also possible according to the epoch (some date between A. D. 550 and 557) proposed by him, if we assume that Madhukāmārṇava was another name of Rājārāja (I)-Dēvēndravarman. The overwhelming evidence of other dated records set forth above would, however, preclude that epoch altogether.

be objected that this goes against the evidence of the Naḍagām and other plates of Vajrahasta III; for according to them, Madhukāmārṇava III ascended the throne 19 years before his nephew Vajrahasta III. The latter's accession is known to have taken place in Ś. 960.¹ Deducting 19 years from this, we get Ś. 941 as the date of the accession of Madhukāmārṇava III. This conflicts with the statement in the Simhīpura plates that Dēvēndravarman (with whom we have identified Madhukāmārṇava III) was ruling in Gn. 520, i.e., Ś. 940.

In connection with this I have to point out that the reign-periods of the several Gāṅga kings mentioned in the Naḍagām and other plates are not exact, but only approximate; for they do not mention any months and days in addition to the years of their reigns. If Madhukāmārṇava III reigned for 19 years and a few months, he might have been on the throne in Ś. 940 (perhaps towards the close of it), when the Simhīpura grant was made. I may add that the epoch of the Gāṅga era fixed above will not be affected in the least even if we identify Dēvēndravarman of the Simhīpura plates with one of Madhukāmārṇava's elder brothers, Kāmārṇava II and Guṇḍama II who preceded him on the throne and ruled for six months and three years respectively.²

We have thus seen that the view that the Gāṅga era was started on Chaitra śu. di. 1 in the expired Śaka year 420 presents no difficulties and squares with all the known data. Before concluding this article it would not be out of place to discuss what political event it commemorates.

From a Vākāṭaka inscription in cave No. XVI at Ajaṇṭā,³ we learn that Harishēṇa, the last known Vākāṭaka king, had something to do with Āndhra and Kālīṅga. Unfortunately the inscription is very badly damaged in the portion where the names of these countries are mentioned together with a number of others such as Kuntala, Avanti, Kōsala and Lāṭa. Perhaps Harishēṇa raided these countries and made their kings acknowledge his suzerainty. That he did so in Āndhra appears quite probable from the marriage of the Vishṇukunḍin prince Mādhavarman I with a Vākāṭaka princess⁴ who was perhaps a daughter or some near relative of Harishēṇa. From several grants found in the Ganjām District, we know that in the fourth and fifth centuries A. D., Kālīṅga was held by some princes whose names ended in *varman*, such as Śaktivarman, Umavarman, Chaṇḍavarman, Anantavarman, etc.⁵ They must have been obliged to submit to the mighty Vākāṭaka king Harishēṇa. From recent researches in Vākāṭaka history it seems probable that Harishēṇa closed his reign about A. D. 500,⁶ and this, we find, is also approximately the time when the Gāṅga era was started. The conjecture may therefore be hazarded that it marks the establishment of a new kingdom in Kālīṅga when the power of the Vākāṭakas declined towards the close of the fifth century A. D.

¹ The exact date of the coronation of Vajrahasta III mentioned in the Naḍagām and other plates corresponds, according to Kielhorn, to Sunday, the 9th April, A. D. 1038.

² Messrs. J. C. Ghosh and Subba Rao identify him with Kāmārṇava II who ruled only for half a year (*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. LXI, p. 237 and *Proceedings and Transactions of the Seventh All-India Oriental Conference*, p. 519), while Mr. B. V. Krishna Rao takes him to be Guṇḍama II, who ruled for 3 years (*J. A. H. R. S.*, Vol. XI, p. 21).

³ *A. S. W. I.*, Vol. IV, p. 125.

⁴ Above, Vol. IV, p. 196.

⁵ Above, Vol. XII, pp. 1 ff., Vol. IV, pp. 142 ff., Vol. XXIV, pp. 47 ff., etc.

⁶ Above, Vol. XXVI, pp. 148-9.

No. 49.—A NOTE ON SIRODA PLATES OF (BHOJA) DEVARAJA

BY N. LAKSHMINARAYAN RAO, OOTACAMUND

The valuable inscription on these plates was edited in this journal¹ by the late Rao Bahadur C. R. Krishnamacharlu. In 1943, when I was studying the record in connection with the early history of Western India, I examined the text of the inscription as published by the learned editor and checked the reading with the excellent facsimile accompanying the article. As a result of this scrutiny I was convinced that the name of the dynasty of Dēvarāja had not been correctly deciphered. Mr. Charlu read the word, indicating the name of the family to which Dēvarāja belonged, as *Gōminām* and claimed that he had discovered a hitherto unknown dynasty on the West Coast of India, viz., that of Gōmins. His reading was accepted by many scholars, one of whom has even tried to identify this Dēvarāja with the Rāshtrakūṭa prince of the same name² figuring in the Paṇḍaraṅgapaḷli plates of Avidhēya³ and the Uṇḍikavāṭikā grant of Abhimanyu,⁴ though he has not been able to explain satisfactorily how the family name Gōmin could be connected with the Rāshtrakūṭas.

Let us examine the disputed reading with the help of the photographic reproduction of the plates. The syllable that first roused my suspicion about the incorrectness of the reading of the dynastic name is the one that has been read as *mi* in the given reading *Chandrapurād=Gōminām* (line 1). If we compare this letter with *mi* in *bhūmis*=(line 12) and *bhūmidah* (line 13) it becomes clear that its shape is altogether different. If it is not *mi*, what else can it be? The letter very closely resembles *ja* of *viṇaya*- in line 17 and the superscript of the conjunct letter *jya* in *rājya* in the same line. It is well known that the medial *ā* sign of *ja* is usually added to the horizontal stroke at the centre of the letter. Even in the present case it starts from the central stroke, goes up and turns to the left round the letter in a curl. Thus, it is obvious that the whole syllable should be read as *jā*. This led me to scrutinize the reading of the preceding letter, namely, *d=Gō* in *Chandrapurād=Gōminām*. On a careful examination of the subscript I came to the conclusion that it answers more to *bh* than to *g*. We may compare, for instance, *bha* in *bhavi-shyad*=(line 2), *bhu* in *prabhu* (line 4) and *bhyā* in *svāmibhyām* (line 6), etc. It may be noted that *ga* is more upright than *bha* which is a little slanting. With these two emendations, the word has to be read as *Bhōjānām* and not *Gōminām*. Further it appears to me that the syllable after *Chandra* is an initial *ū* and not *pu* (cf. initial *u* in *uktañ=cha* in line 10); what is seen at the bottom of the letter obviously denotes length. It is to be observed that in this record the sign of *p* is open at the top (cf. *pūny-ḍpachayāya* in line 5). If this correction also be accepted, the whole expression would read *Chandraūrād=Bhōjānām*. Accordingly, **the name of the family of the donor-king Dēvarāja is Bhōja** and not *Gōmin*, while the name of the capital of the territory of this line of rulers, viz., the Bhōjas, round about Goa on the West Coast, was *Chandraūra*.⁵ The

¹ Above, Vol. XXIV, pp. 143 ff. with 1 plate.

² *An. Bhand, Ori. Res. Inst.*, Vol. XXV, pp. 43 ff.

³ *Mys. Arch. Rep.* 1929, pp. 197 ff. In this record the name of Dēvarāja's family is not given.

⁴ Above, Vol. VIII, p. 163 ff.

⁵ The termination *ūra* is the Sanskritized form of the Dravidian word *ūr* meaning village or town and corresponds to Sanskrit *pura*. Such village names, ending in *ūra*, are found in many Sanskrit inscriptions; the following are a few instances from records ranging from the 4th to the 9th century after Christ:—*Kottūra* (Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudragupta, *C. I. I.*, Vol. III, p. 13); *Kaṅgūra* (Mattepād plates of Dāmōdaravarman, above, Vol. XVII, p. 329), *Chendalūra* (Chendalūr plates of Pallava Kumāra-Vishnu, above, Vol. VIII, p. 235), *Vattūra* (Mahākūṭa pillar inscription of the Western Chalukya King Mangalēśa, *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XIX, p. 17), *Cherupūra* (Chipurapalle plates of the Eastern Chalukya-King Vishnuvardhana I, *Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XX, p. 16) *Kumūlūra* (Timmāpuram plates of the same king, above, Vol. IX, p. 318), *Allūra* (Sūrat plates of Śrīyāśraya Ślāditya of the Gujarat Chalukya family referred to on p. 231, Vol. VIII, above) and *Lattalūra* (Nīlguṇḍ inscription of the Rāshtrakūṭa king Amōghavarsha I, above, Vol. VI, p. 103).

discovery of some copper plates of the Bhōja dynasty during the years 1948 and 1949 has confirmed the correctness of my reading of the family name. These are noticed in the sequel.

Now, it is known from the 13th rock edict of Aśoka that the Bhōjas and the Pitinikas (within his territory) were conforming to his instruction in morality.¹ Dr. Hultsch who regards them as tribes says that they have to be looked for in the west.² Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, however, explains the word *Petenika* (*Pitinika*) as 'one who enjoys hereditary property' and takes *Bhōja-Petenikas* as one word meaning 'the rulers called Bhōjas'. He also considers them to be the same as the Mahābhōjas who were minor rulers holding the present Thānā and Kolābā Districts of the Bombay State.³ Inscriptions mentioning them are found at Beḍsā, Kanheri and Kuḍā. From these we learn that they were responsible for the excavation of many of the caves in these localities.⁴ The Bhōjakas are mentioned also in the Hāthigumphā inscription of the Kalinga king Khāravela, which says that he caused the Raṭhikas and the Bhojakas to bow down at his feet.⁵ According to Dr. Jayaswal the expression *Bhōjas*, as opposed to *Petenikas*, means non-hereditary leaders who observed the Bhaurya form of constitution mentioned in the *Aitarēya Brāhmaṇa*. To him, thus, the Bhōjas appear to be so called because they followed that special form of constitution. He also points out that the name still survives in the modern caste-name *Bhōjaka* found in the Indian State of Curch in the Kathiawad Agency.⁶ Dr. B. C. Law who has collected almost all the references to the Bhōjas is of the view that the Bhōjas were a very ancient tribe whose princes held not only the Sātvats, near the Ganges, in subjection, but also ruled over the Vidarbha (Berar) and, according to a passage in Kauṭilya's *Arthaśāstra*, even over the Daṇḍaka, the region round Nasik.⁷ It may be added that the *Daśakumāracharita* of Daṇḍin also places the Bhōjas in Vidarbha.⁸ We have, however, no means of ascertaining whether, or in what way, the Bhōjas mentioned in the rock edict of Aśoka as well as in the cave inscriptions of Western and Eastern India noticed above were related to the ruling dynasty of the Bhōjas of Goa, one of whose scions was Dēvarāja of the Sirōda plates.

Recently a number of copper plates have been discovered in and near the Goa territory. A notice about them by Mr. R. S. Panchamukhi, Director of the Kannada Research Institute, Dharwar, is found on page 99 of the *Summary of Papers submitted to the 15th Session of the All-India Oriental Conference*. They comprise three charters. Two belong to the Bhōjas, while the third pertains to the Maurya dynasty (of Koṅkan), though Mr. Panchamukhi has taken them all to be Bhōja grants.⁹

Both the Bhōja grants refer themselves to the reign of Prithivimallavarman, one dated in the first (*prathama*) regnal year and the other in the 25th regnal year.¹⁰ The earlier record, issued from

¹ *C. I. I.*, Vol. I (Inscriptions of Aśoka), pp. 46 and 48, text-line 9.

² *Ibid.*, p. 48, f.n. 11.

³ *Aśoka* (1932 : 2nd edition), pp. 34-35.

⁴ *Arch. Sur. of Western India*, Vol. IV, p. 90, (Beḍsā ins. No. 3) ; p. 85 (Kuḍā ins. No. 6) ; Lüders' *List*, Nos. 1021, 1037, 1045, 1052, 1058.

⁵ Above, Vol. XX, p. 79.

⁶ K. P. Jayaswal, *Hindu Polity* (1943 : 2nd edition); p. 80.

⁷ *Ind. Cult.*, Vol. I, p. 384. *Yathā Dāṇḍakyō nāma Bhōjaḥ kāmād-brāhmaṇa-kanyām=abhimanyamūnas=sabandhu-rāshtrō vīnanāśa.* (*Arthaśāstra*, edited by Shama Sastri, 2nd edition, 1924, p. 11, ll. 13-14). This passage is also found in the *Kāmasūtra* of Vātsyāyana who apparently copied it from Kauṭilya (*Kāmasūtra*, Banaras edition, *adhikaraṇa* 1, *adhyāya* 2, *sūtra* 44). See also *Studies in Kāmasūtra* by H. C. Chakaladar, pp. 84 f.

⁸ *Vidarbho nāma janapadaḥ / tasmin=Bhōjavanāśa-bhūṣaṇam.....Punyavarmā nām=āsīt (Uchchhvaśa 8) ; Early History of the Deccan (Bom. Gaz., Vol. I, pt. ii), p. 143 and note 2 ; An. Bhand. Ori. Res. Inst., Vol. XXVI (1945), pp. 20, 22.*

⁹ These are shortly to be published in this journal.

¹⁰ Mr. Panchamukhi gives the date of the former as the 13th year and of the latter as the 15th year. My reading of the dates is based on an examination of the original plates.

Vṛishibhiṇīkhēta, registers the grant made by the king of a piece of land to a Brāhmaṇa, named Mā[tvā]rya, of the Agnivēśya *gōtra*. The land was situated in the village of Bhāgalapallikā in the Kupala[pa]kaṭa *āhāra*. The grant was made for the increase of merit of the king's mother Chētasādēvī at the request of his brother Śatrudamana on the 13th day of the bright half of the month of Jyēshṭha in the first year of the king's reign. At the end of the inscription we are told that it was the gift of Chētasādēvī, described as Nēlikabālikā. The charter was written by Dēva-śarmāchārya of the Bhāradvāja *gōtra*. The later grant was issued from Prithivīparvata and states that the king made a gift of a plot of land in the village of Malāra in Kupalākaṭa to a Brāhmaṇa, named Dāmārya, of the Bhāradvāja *gōtra*. The gift was made for the merit of the king himself on the 10th day of the bright fortnight of the month of Śrāvaṇa in the 25th year of the king's reign. The *ājñāpti* of the grant was Nidhivara and the writer was Buddhadāsa of the Kāmbōja *gōtra*. The inscriptions on both these sets of plates are written in the Sanskrit language and in the southern alphabet assignable to about the 7th century A. C.

Another copper-plate record of this dynasty was discovered early in 1950 by Mr. P. B. Desai, M.A., Epigraphical Assistant, at the village of Hire Gutti in the Kumta *taluk* of the North Kanara District which adjoins Goa. The document, issued by king Aśaṅkitarāja of the Bhōja lineage, registers the grant, made by him, of the village Sundarikā in the Dīpaka *vishaya* to a *vihāra* which had possibly been erected by himself (*sva-vihāra*). The invocation to the Buddha at the commencement of the inscription shows beyond doubt that the monastery (*vihāra*) to which the gift was made was Buddhist. It is also noteworthy that this set of plates bears a seal depicting the figure of an elephant which was evidently the emblem of this royal family. The language of this grant is likewise Sanskrit. Though the record is not dated its palaeography would place it in the same period, namely about the 7th century A. C.¹

Yet another copper-plate inscription of this dynasty, falling in that very period, has been discovered by Mr. R. S. Panchamukhi. I have not seen this record, but, according to Mr. Panchamukhi, it registers a gift of land made by Dharmamahārāja Kāpālīvarman of the Bhōja family to a certain Svāmīkarāja who, in his turn, granted it to a Brāhmaṇa, named Bhavārya. The land was situated at the village of Śivapuraka. The grant was issued from the king's camp at Pāmāsakhēṭaka.²

Thus we have, in all, five inscriptions of this dynasty, all on copper plates. Of these, the Siroda plates of Dēvarāja happen to be the earliest, as they are palaeographically referable to the 4th century A. C., while the rest belong to about the 7th century. They disclose the names of four ruling monarchs, namely, Dēvarāja, Prithivīmallavarman, Aśaṅkitarāja and Kāpālīvarman. Chētasādēvī, the queen of Prithivīmallavarman, and Śatrudamana, the latter's brother, are two others, brought to light from one of these documents. We have seen that these grants were issued from four different places, *viz.*, Chandraūra, Vṛishibhiṇīkhēta, Prithivīparvata and Pāmāsakhēṭaka. Chandraūra has been considered to be identical with Chandor in Goa.³ The other places may also have to be looked for around that region which appears to have been the dominion over which the Bhōjas held sway. The relationship in which the four rulers of the family stood to one another and the order of succession of the three last named kings, *viz.*, Prithivīmalla, Aśaṅkita and Kāpālī, are points to be determined only by future discoveries.

Incidentally, I may also briefly notice the Maurya grant here, which is interesting in its own way. It records the order of the illustrious Anirjitavarman, the Maurya Mahārāja, issued

¹ This record is also being edited in this journal.

² *Fifteenth All-India Oriental Conference (1949), Summaries of Papers*, p. 99.

³ Above, Vol. XXIV, p. 145.

from the victorious **Kumāradvīpa**, to the inhabitants and officials of twelve villages (*dvādāśa-grāmyāḥ*). The order announces that a gift of certain lands, tank, garden and house-site was made by the king to a Brāhmaṇa, named Hastyārya, of the Hārita *gōtra*. The gift was made with the object of securing the welfare or final beatitude (*ni[h*]śrēyas-ārttham*) of Nāgapadda, Malladatta, Achala and the king himself. The inscription is dated the 10th day of the 7th fortnight of Hē[manta*] in the 29th year, apparently of the king's reign. This mode of recording dates in seasons and fortnights is not usually met with in inscriptions of a period later than the 6th century.¹ Consequently this record may be placed in the 6th century, and palaeography does not militate against this view. In the Aihole inscription of Pulikēśin II, his father Kirtivarman I is stated to have been 'the night of doom to the Nālas, Mauryas and Kadambas'.² Pulikēśin II himself claims a decisive victory over the Mauryas in the *Koṅkaṇas*.³ Evidently it is to this Maurya family that Anirjitavarman belonged.

¹ An Eastern Chālukya inscription of a later period (7th century) citing a season date (*Ancient India*, No. 5, p. 49) is the only one of its kind that I know of.

² Above, Vol. VI, p. 4, text-line 4.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 6, text-line 10.

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BY H. K. NARASIMHASWAMI AND S. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARI

[The figures refer to pages; *n.* after a figure to footnotes and *add.* to additions. The following other abbreviations are also used:—*au.*=author; *ca.*=capital; *ch.*=chief; *Chron.*=Chronicle; *ci.*=city; *co.*=country; *com.*=composer; *dt.*=district; *dn.*=division; *do.*=ditto; *dy.*=dynasty; *E.*=Eastern; *enr.*=engraver; *ep.*=epithet; *f.*=female; *feud.*=feudatory; *gen.*=general; *Hist.*=Historical; *k.*=king; *l.*=locality; *l.m.*=linear measure or land measure; *m.*=male; *min.*=minister; *mo.*=mountain; *myth.*=mythological; *n.*=name; *N.*=Northern; *off.*=office or officer; *pr.*=prince; *q.*=queen; *rel.*=religious; *ri.*=river; *S.*=Southern; *s.a.*=same as; *sur.*=surname; *te.*=temple; *Tel.*=Telugu; *t.d.*=territorial division; *tit.*=title; *tn.*=town; *tg.*=taluk; *vi.*=village; *W.*=Western; *wk.*=work.]

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